

**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
AT TACOMA**

CITY OF DUPONT,

Plaintiff,

v.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA; THE
DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE; THE
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY; THE DEPARTMENT
OF DEFENSE; 3M COMPANY (f/k/a Minnesota Mining
Manufacturing, Co.); TYCO FIRE PRODUCTS LP
(successor-in-interest to the Ansul Company); AGC, INC.
(f/k/a Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.); AGC CHEMICALS
AMERICAS, Inc.; AMEREX CORPORATION;
ARCHROMA MANAGEMENT LLC; ARCHROMA U.S.,
INC.; ARKEMA INC.; BASF CORPORATION;
BUCKEYE FIRE EQUIPMENT COMPANY; CARRIER
GLOBAL CORPORATION; CHEMDESIGN PRODUCTS,
INC.; CHEMGUARD, INC.; CHEMICALS
INCORPORATED; THE CHEMOURS COMPANY; THE
CHEMOURS COMPANY FC, LLC; CHUBB FIRE, LTD.;
CLARIANT CORPORATION; CORTEVA, INC.; DAIKIN
AMERICA; DEEPWATER CHEMICALS, INC.; DUPONT
DE NEMOURS, INC.; DYNAX CORPORATION; E.I. DU
PONT DE NEMOURS AND COMPANY; KIDDE-
FENWAL, INC.; KIDDE PLC, INC.; NATION FORD
CHEMICAL COMPANY; NATIONAL FOAM, INC.
(successor-in-interest to Angus Fire Armour Corp.);
RAYTHEON TECHNOLOGIES CORPORATION (f/k/a
United Technologies Corporation); and CARRIER FIRE &
SECURITY AMERICAS CORPORATION,

Defendants.

Civil Action No.:

**COMPLAINT AND JURY
DEMAND**

COMPLAINT

Gordon P. Karg
City of DuPont
1700 Civic Drive
DuPont, WA 98327
(253) 912-5214

1 The City of DuPont (“City”), by and through its attorneys, hereby alleges as follows:

2 **SUMMARY OF CLAIM**

3 1. The City brings this action for injunctive relief, damages and reimbursement of
4 costs incurred, and which continue to be incurred, to address the presence of per- and
5 polyfluoroalkyl substances (“PFAS”)—including, but not limited to, perfluorooctanoic acid
6 (“PFOA”) and perfluorooctane sulfonate (“PFOS”)—in the City’s groundwater supplied wells.

7 2. PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS, are a group of toxic, extremely persistent, and
8 bioaccumulative synthetic chemicals. When consumed, PFAS can cause serious health impacts.

9 3. The United States, the Department of the Air Force (“Air Force”), the Department
10 of the Army (“Army”), and the Department of Defense (“DOD”) (together, “Federal Defendants,”
11 or “United States”); as well as 3M Company, AGC, Inc. (f/k/a Asahi Glass Co., Ltd.), AGC
12 Chemicals Americas, Inc., Amerex Corporation, Archroma Management LLC; Archroma U.S.,
13 Inc., Arkema, Inc., BASF Corporation, Buckeye Fire Equipment Company, Carrier Global
14 Corporation, ChemDesign Products, Inc., Chemguard, Inc., Chemicals Incorporated, The
15 Chemours Company FC, LLC, The Chemours Company, Chubb Fire, Ltd., Clariant Corporation,
16 Corteva, Inc., Daikin America, Dupont De Nemours, Inc., Deepwater Chemicals, Inc., Dynax
17 Corporation, E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co., Kidde PLC, Inc., Kidde-Fenwal, Inc., Nation Ford
18 Chemical Company, National Foam, Inc., Tyco Fire Products LP, Raytheon Technologies
19 Corporation (f/k/a United Technologies Corporation), and Carrier Fire & Security Americas
20 Corporation (together, the “Manufacturer Defendants”), are responsible for PFAS released into the
21 groundwater that supplies the City’s public water supply system.

22 For years, Manufacturer Defendants manufactured, sold, and/or distributed compounds
23 and products containing PFAS. These products include the firefighting suppressant agent
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1 “aqueous film-forming foam” (“AFFF”), which contains PFAS and is used at airports and military
2 facilities.¹

3 4. Manufacturer Defendants manufactured and/or distributed and sold AFFF to the
4 United States.

5 5. As required under the Federal Tort Claims Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1346, 2671, 2674, *et*
6 *seq.* (“FTCA”), the portion of this action bringing tort claims against Federal Defendants is brought
7 against the United States, which includes but is not limited to the Air Force, the Army, and the
8 Department of Defense. The Air Force, the Army, and the DOD are named specifically for
9 purposes of non-FTCA claims pled in this Complaint.

10 6. The United States released PFAS to the groundwater through its use of AFFF at
11 Joint Base Lewis-McChord Air Force Base (“JBLM”) near Tacoma, Washington. From
12 approximately 1970 until 2016, the Air Force and the Army used AFFF at JBLM for training
13 events and emergency responses.

14 7. Prior to consolidation as JBLM in 2010, McChord Air Force Base and Fort Lewis
15 operated as separate military installations. Camp Lewis, a predecessor to Fort Lewis, was founded
16 in 1917 as a training ground for World War I troops. In 1927, Camp Lewis was re-designated as
17 Fort Lewis, and Gray Army Airfield (“Gray Field”) was constructed. Fort Lewis continued to
18 expand, becoming a major Pacific military base in the 1980s. It is still heavily relied upon today.
19 McChord Airfield was originally part of Fort Lewis from 1930, until it separated and was renamed
20 McChord Air Force Base in 1947 with the creation of the Air Force. Like Fort Lewis, McChord
21 Air Force Base has expanded since its founding, particularly from 1951 through 1990, and remains
22 a key U.S. military installation for operations in the Pacific region.

23 _____
24 ¹ Unless otherwise noted, all mentions of “AFFF” refer to AFFF containing PFAS and includes the PFAS component parts of AFFF.

1 8. Studies have connected the United States' use of Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF
2 to PFAS groundwater contamination at and in the vicinity of JBLM. The United States' failure to
3 properly manage, capture, and contain AFFF used at JBLM has resulted in AFFF releases into the
4 environment, including to soil and surface water at and in the vicinity of JBLM and the City's
5 property. Once released to the environment, the PFAS component of AFFF migrated from AFFF-
6 impacted surface soils to groundwater. Once PFAS entered groundwater beneath JBLM it
7 migrated, and continues migrating, through groundwater from JBLM to the City's downgradient
8 wells. These wells serve approximately 2900 municipal water customers for household and
9 commercial use.

10 9. When the United States became aware of PFAS contamination at JBLM, it shut
11 down its contaminated on-base water supply wells and allocated funds to treat those wells. By
12 shutting down its own wells, the United States increased the groundwater flow away from JBLM,
13 creating an opportunity for PFAS released at JBLM to migrate more quickly to and further
14 contaminate the City's soil and groundwater. The United States has taken no action to prevent
15 PFAS from migrating to the City's wells, nor to treat PFAS in the groundwater from which the
16 City draws water to supply its residential and commercial customers.

17 10. Manufacturer Defendants knew that PFAS and related constituents present
18 unreasonable risks to human health, water quality, and the environment. Yet they manufactured,
19 distributed, and sold these chemicals with inadequate warning of their toxic effects. They did so
20 without regard to the health of the City's residents or the City's property interests, both of which
21 would foreseeably be damaged once these chemicals infiltrated the environment.

22 11. Manufacturer Defendants marketed, distributed, and sold their AFFF with
23 knowledge that it would be used in training exercises, fire control, fire suppression systems,
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1 emergency situations, and other ways at Air Force and Army bases such as JBLM.

2 12. Manufacturer Defendants knew such use would release PFAS and other
3 contaminants into the environment.

4 13. Defendants'² acts and omissions contaminated the City's water supplies with
5 PFAS. This contamination has spread to the Red Salmon Springs Aquifer and the Outwash
6 /Lakewood Glacier Aquifer (collectively, the "Aquifers"), from which the City draws water to
7 supply its customers.

8 14. Manufacturer Defendants' negligent development, manufacturing, distribution,
9 marketing, and sale of AFFF caused the contamination of the City's groundwater and wells with
10 PFAS.

11 15. Through their development, manufacturing, distribution, marketing, and/or sale of
12 AFFF; violations of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability
13 Act of 1980 ("CERCLA"), 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.*; and their trespass, nuisance, and negligence,
14 the Manufacturer Defendants proximately caused the City's injuries and damages by
15 contaminating the groundwater.

16 16. The United States' release and disposal of PFAS also caused the contamination of
17 the City's groundwater and wells with PFAS. Specifically, due to its CERCLA violations,
18 trespass, nuisance, and negligence, the United States, acting through its employees and personnel,
19 caused the City's injuries and damages by contaminating the groundwater.

20 17. This action thus arises from the negligent, intentional, wrongful, and illegal
21 nondiscretionary acts and omissions by Defendants that contaminated the City's water supplies.

22 18. As a result of Defendants' contamination of the City's water supplies, the City has
23

24 ² "Defendants" refers to all defendants named in this complaint.

1 and will continue to incur significant expenses and losses associated with continued water quality
2 testing, designing and constructing filtration systems, potentially removing wells from service,
3 and otherwise responding to and mitigating the impacts of PFAS contamination in its drinking
4 water supplies.

5 19. Under the common law, the City seeks injunctive relief requiring that the Federal
6 Defendants halt all use and disposal of AFFF at JBLM and that Defendants, as necessary: install
7 or financially compensate the City for granulated activated carbon (“GAC”) filtration systems and
8 other infrastructure to remediate PFAS on City property; build new wells financially compensate
9 the City for new wells that draw water from deeper aquifers unaffected by PFAS; and supply the
10 City’s customers with alternative water supplies unaffected by PFAS.

11 20. Under federal and state law set further below, the City also seeks from Defendants
12 compensatory, consequential and incidental damages; restitution; declaratory judgment; and any
13 additional appropriate relief.

14 **JURISDICTION AND VENUE**

15 21. This Court has jurisdiction to hear Plaintiff’s claims against the United States
16 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1346(b)(1). On August 5, 2020 the City submitted administrative claims
17 to the Air Force, Army, and DOD for damages pursuant to the FTCA, 28 U.S.C. §§ 1346, 2671,
18 2674, *et seq.* On April 14, 2021 all agencies denied the City’s claims.

19 22. The City exhausted its administrative remedies and timely filed this action. U.S.C.
20 §§ 2401(b), 2675.

21 23. This Court has jurisdiction to hear the CERCLA claims set forth in this Complaint
22 under Section 107 of CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), and the federal question statute, 28 U.S.C. §
23 1331.

24. This Court has jurisdiction to hear Plaintiff's claims against the Manufacturer Defendants pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1332, as the parties are completely diverse and the amount in controversy exceeds \$75,000.

25. This Court also has supplemental jurisdiction over the City’s state law claims under 28 U.S.C. § 1367.

26. In addition, the Declaratory Judgments Act, 28 U.S.C. § 2201, authorizes this Court to grant declaratory relief in this matter. Federal Defendants have waived their sovereign immunity pursuant to CERCLA § 120(a)(1), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(a)(1).

27. Venue properly lies in the Western District of Washington pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 1391, because a substantial part of the events giving rise to this Complaint occurred in that district.

PLAINTIFF

28. Plaintiff City of DuPont is a municipal corporation with its principal place of business at 1700 Civic Drive, DuPont, WA 98327.

29. The City is a municipal water purveyor with municipal water rights issued by the Washington State Department of Ecology. The City supplies drinking water to approximately 2900 residential and commercial customers throughout the City through an interconnected water supply and distribution system. The City's water system is maintained and further regulated by the Washington State Department of Health.

30. The City's water is drawn from the Red Salmon Aquifer and the Outwash/Lakewood Glacier Aquifer (the Aquifers) through 5 permanent groundwater wells.

DEFENDANTS

31. Defendant the United States is a sovereign nation and national government and maintains offices at the offices of the President at the White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue,

1 Washington, D.C. 20500.

2 32. Defendant the Air Force is a federal agency that maintains offices at 1670 Air Force
3 Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20330-1670.

4 33. Defendant the Army is a federal agency that maintains offices at 101 Army
5 Pentagon, Washington, D.C. 20310-0101.

6 34. Defendant DOD is a federal agency that maintains offices at 1000 Defense
7 Pentagon Washington, DC 20301-1000.

8 35. Defendant The 3M Company (“3M”) (f/k/a Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing
9 Co.) is a Delaware corporation. Its principal place of business is at 3M Center, St. Paul, Minnesota
10 55144-1000.

11 36. Defendant AGC, Inc. f/k/a Asahi Glass Co., Ltd. (“AGC”), is a corporation
12 organized under the laws of Japan and does business throughout the United States. AGC has its
13 principal place of business at 1-5-1, Marunouchi, Chiyoda-ku, Tokyo 100-8405 Japan.

14 37. Defendant AGC Chemicals Americas, Inc. (“AGC America”) is a Delaware
15 corporation with its principal business office at 55 E. Uwchlan Avenue, Suite 201, Exton,
16 Pennsylvania 19341. Upon information and belief, AGC America is a subsidiary of AGC, Inc., a
17 Japanese corporation formerly known as Asahi Glass Company, Ltd.

18 38. Defendant Amerex Corporation (“Amerex”) is an Alabama corporation with its
19 principal business office at 2900 Highway 280 S., Ste. 300, Birmingham, AL 35223-2453.

20 39. Defendant Archroma Management, LLC (“Archroma Management”), is a foreign
21 limited liability company registered in Switzerland, with a principal business address of
22 Neuhofstrasse 11, 4153 Reinach, Basel-Land, Switzerland.

23 40. Defendant Archroma U.S., Inc. (“Archroma U.S.”) is a Delaware corporation with
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its principal place of business located at 5435 77 Center Dr., #10, Charlotte, North Carolina 28217. Upon information and belief, Archroma U.S., Inc. is a subsidiary of Archroma Management, LLC.

41. Defendant Arkema, Inc. (“Arkema”) is a Pennsylvania corporation with its principal place of business at 900 1st Avenue, King of Prussia, Pennsylvania 19406.

42. Defendant BASF Corporation (“BASF”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 100 Park Avenue, Florham Park, New Jersey 07932. Upon information and belief, BASF acquired Ciba-Geigy Corporation and/or Ciba Specialty Chemicals.

43. Defendant Buckeye Fire Equipment Company (“Buckeye”) is an Ohio corporation with its principal place of business at 110 Kings Road, Kings Mountain, North Carolina 28086.

44. Defendant Carrier Global Corporation (“Carrier”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business located at 13995 Pasteur Boulevard, Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418. Upon information and belief, Defendant Carrier Fire & Security Americas Corporation is now a division of Carrier.

45. Defendant ChemDesign Products, Inc. (“ChemDesign”) is a Texas corporation with its principal place of business located at 2 Stanton Street, Marinette, Wisconsin.

46. Defendant Chemguard, Inc. (“Chemguard”) is a Wisconsin corporation with its principal place of business at One Stanton Street, Marinette, Wisconsin 54143-2542.

47. Upon information and belief, Chemguard acquired Williams Fire and Hazard Control, Inc. (“WFHC”). Upon information and belief, WFHC has and continues to sell and/or distribute AFFF throughout the United States.

48. Defendant Chemicals Incorporated (“Chem Inc.”) is a Texas corporation with its principal place of business located at 12321 Hatcherville Road, Baytown, Texas 77521.

49. Defendant The Chemours Company (“Chemours”) is a Delaware corporation with

1 its principal place of business at 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware, 19899. On
2 information and belief, Chemours is a successor-in-interest to DuPont Chemical Solutions
3 Enterprise (“DuPont Chemical”), which was a Delaware Corporation, with a principal place of
4 business located at 1007 Market Street, Wilmington, Delaware 19899.

5 50. Defendant The Chemours Company FC, LLC (“Chemours FC”), successor-in-
6 interest to DuPont Chemical Solutions Enterprise, is a Delaware limited liability company with
7 its principal place of business located at 1007 Market Street Wilmington, Delaware, 19899.

8 51. Defendant Chubb Fire, Ltd. (“Chubb”) is a foreign private limited company with
9 its principal place of business at Littleton Road, Ashford, Middlesex, United Kingdom TW15 1TZ.
10 On information and belief, Chubb is registered in England with a registered number of 134210.
11 On information and belief, Chubb is or has been composed of different subsidiaries and/or
12 divisions, including but not limited to, Chubb Fire & Security Ltd.; Chubb Security, PLC; Red
13 Hawk Fire & Security, LLC; and/or Chubb National Foam, Inc. Chubb is part of UTC Climate,
14 Controls, & Security, a unit of Raytheon Technologies Corporation (f/k/a United Technologies
15 Corporation) (“Raytheon”).

16 52. Defendant Clariant Corporation (“Clariant”) is a New York corporation with its
17 principal place of business located at 4000 Monroe Road, Charlotte, North Carolina 28205.

18 53. Defendant Corteva, Inc. (“Corteva”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal
19 place of business located at 974 Centre Road, Building 735, Wilmington, Delaware 19805. Upon
20 information and belief, Corteva, Inc. is one of the aforementioned spin-off companies from
21 DowDuPont, Inc., and is believed to have assumed some of the PFAS liabilities of the former
22 DuPont.

23 54. Defendant Daikin America (“Daikin”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal
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1 place of business located at 20 Olympic Drive, Orangeburg, New York 10962.

2 55. Defendant Deepwater Chemicals, Inc. (“Deepwater”) is a Delaware corporation
3 with its principal place of business located at 196122 E County Road 40, Woodward, Oklahoma
4 73801.

5 56. Defendant DuPont de Nemours, Inc. (“New DuPont”) is a Delaware corporation
6 with its principal place of business located at 974 Centre Road, Building 730, Wilmington,
7 Delaware 19805. Upon information and belief, DowDuPont, Inc. was formed in 2017 as a result
8 of the merger of Dow Chemical and DuPont. DowDuPont, Inc. was subsequently divided into
9 three publicly traded companies and on June 1, 2019, DowDuPont, Inc. changed its registered
10 name to DuPont de Nemours, Inc.

11 57. Defendant Dynax Corporation (“Dynax”) is a Delaware corporation with its
12 principal place of business located at 79 Westchester Avenue, Pound Ridge, New York 10576.

13 58. Defendant E.I. du Pont de Nemours & Co. (“DuPont”) is a Delaware corporation
14 with its principal place of business at 974 Centre Road Wilmington, Delaware 19805. On
15 information and belief, Chemours is a successor-in-interest to DuPont Chemical.

16 59. In 2015, DuPont spun off its “Performance Chemicals” business to Chemours,
17 along with certain environmental liabilities. Upon information and belief, at the time of the
18 transfer of its Performance Chemicals business to Chemours, DuPont had been sued, threatened
19 with suit and/or had knowledge of the likelihood of litigation to be filed regarding DuPont’s
20 liability for damages and injuries arising from the manufacture and sale of fluorosurfactants and
21 the products that contain fluorosurfactants.

22 60. Defendant Kidde PLC, Inc. (“Kidde”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal
23 place of business at One Carrier Place, Farmington, Connecticut 06034. On information and belief,
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1 Kidde was formerly known as Williams Holdings, Inc. and/or Williams US, Inc.

2 61. Defendant Kidde-Fenwal, Inc. (“Kidde-Fenwal”) is a Delaware corporation with
3 its principal place of business located at 400 Main Street, Ashland, Massachusetts 01721. On
4 information and belief, Kidde-Fenwal is the successor-in-interest to Kidde Fire Fighting, Inc. and
5 is part of the UTC Climate Control & Security Unit of United Technologies Corporation.

6 62. Defendant Nation Ford Chemical Company (“Nation Ford”) is a South Carolina
7 corporation with its headquarters located at 2300 Banks Street, Fort Mill, South Carolina 29715.

8 63. Defendant National Foam, Inc. (“National Foam”) is a Delaware corporation with
9 its principal place of business at 141 Junny Road, Angier, North Carolina 27501. On information
10 and belief, National Foam is the successor-in-interest to Angus Fire Armour Corporation. National
11 Foam is a subsidiary of Angus International Safety Group, Ltd. Upon information and belief,
12 National Foam manufactures the Angus brand of AFFF products.

13 64. Defendant Tyco Fire Products LP (“Tyco”), is a Delaware limited partnership with
14 its principal place of business at 1400 Pennbrook Parkway, Lansdale, Pennsylvania 19446. On
15 information and belief, Tyco is the successor-in-interest to Ansul, Inc. (“Ansul”). On information
16 and belief, Tyco’s governing partners are citizens of Florida, Pennsylvania, and Delaware. Tyco
17 acquired Chemguard in 2011.

18 65. Defendant Raytheon is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business
19 at 870 Winter Street, Waltham, Massachusetts 02451.

20 66. Defendant Carrier Fire & Security Americas Corporation (“Carrier Fire &
21 Security”) is a Delaware corporation with its principal place of business at 13995 Pasteur Blvd.,
22 Palm Beach Gardens, Florida 33418-7231. On information and belief, Carrier Fire & Security was
23 formerly known as UTC Fire & Security Americas Corp., Inc., GE Interlogix, Inc., and GE
24

Security Inc.

FACTUAL ALLEGATIONS

PFAS pose a threat to human health and the environment.

67. PFAS are a family of synthetic chemicals containing fluorine and carbon atoms. As used in this Complaint, the term “PFAS” includes all PFAS that have been or may be detected in the City’s water supplies and property, including, *inter alia*, PFOA, PFOS, perfluorononanoic acid (“PFNA”), perfluorohexane sulfonic acid (“PFHxS”), and perfluorobutanesulfonic acid (“PFBS”).

68. PFAS have strong surfactant properties, meaning they reduce the surface tension between a liquid and another liquid or solid. For this reason, they are effective in products requiring fire resistance or oil, stain, grease, and water repellency.

69. PFAS are in many products, including, but not limited to: firefighting foams; wire insulation; cleaners; textiles; leather; paper; and paints.

70. PFAS are not naturally occurring. Thus, PFAS detected in the environment and in humans are attributable to human activity.

Hundreds of PFAS have been manufactured, distributed, and sold in the United States.

71. The two most widely known and studied PFAS are PFOA and PFOS.

72. Due to their chemical structure, PFAS do not normally hydrolyze, photolyze, or biodegrade under environmental conditions, and are extremely persistent in the environment and in human tissue.

73. PFAS also are particularly mobile in soil and water, readily absorbed into groundwater, and can migrate across long distances.

74. Studies have shown that PFAS bioaccumulate and biomagnify in humans and wildlife.

75. Specifically, humans may absorb PFAS from drinking water. PFAS accumulate

1 primarily in the blood stream, kidneys, and liver.

2 76. In 2009, EPA issued Provisional Health Advisories (“Provisional Health
3 Advisories”) “to assess potential risk from exposure to [PFOS and PFOA] through drinking
4 water,” setting provisional lifetime health advisory levels of 400 parts per trillion (“ppt”) for PFOA
5 (“Provisional Levels”) and 200 ppt for PFOS. No sampling was required until 2012.

6 77. In May 2016, EPA issued lower Health Advisories for PFOA and PFOS (“Health
7 Advisories”), warning that drinking water containing PFAS above a combined value of 70 ppt for
8 PFOA and PFOS poses risks of adverse human health effects. EPA announced the Health
9 Advisories on May 19, 2016, and published them in the Federal Register on May 25, 2016.

10 78. While EPA has not issued Health Advisories for other PFAS to date, other PFAS
11 compounds likely share similar health risks. For example, EPA has also derived Regional
12 Screening Level values for PFBS, assigning it a Tier 2 toxicity value.

13 79. Studies completed in 2015 on PFAS by the Agency for Toxic Substances and
14 Disease Registry (“ATSDR”), the U.S. Public Health Service, and the U.S. Department of Health
15 and Human Services also show that PFAS, including PFOA and PFOS, may adversely affect
16 human health and the environment.

17 80. For example: on June 20, 2018, the ATSDR and the U.S. Department of Health and
18 Human Services released a draft toxicological profile for perfluoroalkyls for public comment
19 (“2018 ATSDR Toxics Profile”).

20 81. The 2018 ATSDR Toxics Profile was prepared pursuant to CERCLA § 104(i), 42
21 U.S.C. § 9604(i), and characterizes the toxicological and adverse health effects for 14 PFAS. In it,
22 ATSDR set provisional minimal risk levels for the PFAS analyzed. It concluded that several have
23 long half-lives in humans, and that PFAS exposure can cause several adverse health outcomes.

1 82. The 2018 ATSDR Toxics Profile explains that “EPA (2016e, 2016f) has concluded
2 that there is suggestive evidence of the carcinogenic potential of PFOA and PFOS in humans. [The
3 International Agency for Research on Cancer] . . . (2017) concluded that PFOA is possibly
4 carcinogenic to humans (Group 2B).”

5 83. Additionally, nonhuman receptors exposed to the contaminated environment are at
6 significant risk of harm. PFOA is persistent and can cause adverse effects in laboratory animals,
7 including cancer and developmental and systemic toxicity. PFOS is persistent, bioaccumulative,
8 and toxic to mammalian species. PFOS is linked to developmental, reproductive, and systemic
9 toxicity. PFOA and PFOS are also linked to immune system impacts on certain animal species
10 (which are often used as indicators of the overall health of an ecosystem): elevated mortality in
11 unexposed progeny of freshwater macroinvertebrates with exposure in the parental generation,
12 disruption of the endocrine system in wildlife, and liver toxicity.

13 84. PFOA is also readily taken up by plants, including wild plants and crops that are
14 grown on contaminated soil, and lead to further bioaccumulation in the food chain.

15 *Since the 1960s, AFFF has been used and released into the environment, including at JBLM.*

16 85. In or about 1966, the United States patented AFFF as a method for extinguishing
17 liquid hydrocarbon fires and other fires at military bases, airports, oil refineries, and firefighting
18 training facilities.

19 86. In 1969, by command of the Navy Department and Marine Corps, DOD issued
20 military specification MIL-F-24385 (amended subsequently), requiring AFFF liquid concentrate
21 to contain either 3% or 6% PFAS. In MIL-F-24385, DOD refers to 3% AFFF concentrate as “Type
22 3” and to 6% AFFF concentrate as “Type 6.”

23 87. In the foam industry, concentrates are typically referred to as “3%” or “6%”
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1 concentrate, depending on the mixture rate with water (either 97% or 94%, respectively). AFFF
2 concentrates contain about 60–90% water and have a fluorine content of about 0.3–1.8%.

3 88. AFFF and other Class B fluorine-containing firefighting foams have been stored
4 and used for fire suppression of flammable liquid fires, fire training, and flammable vapor
5 suppression at military installations and civilian airports in the United States, including JBLM.

6 89. AFFF concentrate containing PFAS is stored in above-ground storage tanks,
7 underground storage tanks, and nonstationary containers. To use AFFF stored in this manner, the
8 concentrate is mixed with water to make a liquid foam solution. The foam solution is then aerated
9 at the nozzle, yielding finished foam that is then ready to be applied to a fire.

10 90. AFFF is designed to coat the fire, blocking its oxygen supply and creating a barrier
11 to extinguish vapors. A film also forms to smother the fire after the foam has dissipated.

12 91. Thousands of gallons of foam solution may be applied during a single AFFF release
13 or discharge.

14 92. AFFF has been released into the environment, including at JBLM, through a variety
15 of practices and mechanisms including: low volume releases of foam concentrate during storage
16 transfer, or equipment calibration; moderate volume discharge of foam solution for apparatus
17 testing; high-volume, broadcast discharge of foam solution for fire training, fighting, suppression
18 and prevention; and leaks from foam distribution piping between storage and pumping locations.

19 93. Safety Data Sheets (“SDSs”) (f/k/a Material Safety Data Sheets (“MSDSs”))
20 require that, after AFFF foam is released, spilled, discharged, or disposed into the environment, it
21 must be contained so it does not accumulate in sediment, soil, surface water sewers, or
22 groundwater.

23 94. If it is not contained, AFFF reverts from foam to the liquid solution of PFAS and
24

1 water, and accumulates in sediment, soil, surface water and/or sewers, and groundwater.

2 ***Manufacturer Defendants supplied AFFF to DOD.***

3 95. On information and belief, since the 1960s, Manufacturer Defendants coordinated
4 with DOD to develop AFFF meeting MIL-F-24385 specifications to extinguish fires at military
5 bases, airports, oil refineries, and firefighting training facilities throughout the United States.

6 96. On information and belief, Defendant 3M does business throughout the United
7 States, including in Washington. It developed, designed, manufactured, marketed, sold, and
8 distributed AFFF from approximately 1964 through at least 2002. The Air Force purchased 3M's
9 AFFF and used it for fire training and response at military bases and other locations throughout
10 the country, including JBLM.

11 97. On information and belief, between 2000 and 2002, Defendant 3M voluntarily
12 phased out its production of some but not all PFAS and sold AFFF containing PFOS until
13 approximately 2003.

14 98. On information and belief, Defendant AGC does business throughout the United
15 States, including in Washington. AGC designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF that was
16 used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

17 99. On information and belief, Defendant AGC America does business throughout the
18 United States, including in Washington. AGC America designed, manufactured, marketed, and
19 sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including
20 JBLM.

21 100. On information and belief, Defendant Amerex does business throughout the United
22 States, including in Washington. Amerex designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF that
23 was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.
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1 101. On information and belief, Defendant Archroma Management does business
2 throughout the United States, including in Washington. Archroma Management designed,
3 manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout
4 the United States, including JBLM.

5 102. On information and belief, Defendant Arkema does business throughout the United
6 States and registered to do business in Washington. Arkema designed, manufactured, marketed,
7 and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States,
8 including JBLM.

9 103. On information and belief, Defendant BASF does business throughout the United
10 States and is registered to do business in Washington. BASF designed, manufactured, marketed,
11 and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States,
12 including JBLM.

13 104. On information and belief, Defendant National Foam does business throughout the
14 United States, including in Washington. It developed, designed, manufactured, marketed, sold, and
15 distributed AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM,
16 from approximately 1973 through the present.

17 105. On information and belief, Defendant Buckeye does business throughout the
18 United States, including in Washington. From approximately 2003 through the present, Buckeye
19 designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the
20 United States, including JBLM.

21 106. On information and belief, Defendant ChemDesign does business throughout the
22 United States, including in Washington. ChemDesign designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold
23 AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.
24

1 107. On information and belief, Defendant Chemguard does business throughout the
2 United States, including in Washington. It designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold PFAS-
3 containing AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM,
4 from approximately 1997 on.

5 108. On information and belief, Defendant Chemours does business throughout the
6 United States, and is registered to do business in Washington. It designed, manufactured, marketed,
7 sold, and distributed AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including
8 JBLM, for decades.

9 109. On information and belief, Defendant Chemours FC does business throughout the
10 United States and registered to do business in Washington. Chemours FC designed, manufactured,
11 marketed, and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United
12 States, including JBLM.

13 110. On information and belief, throughout the 1990s, through its association with
14 National Foam, Defendant Chubb obtained patents (under the name Chubb National Foam, Inc.)
15 for AFFF and similar firefighting foams, including Patent No. 5207932, dated May 4, 1993, for
16 alcohol-resistant AFFF.

17 111. On information and belief, Defendant Chubb does business throughout the United
18 States, including in Washington. Chubb, through its association with National Foam, designed,
19 manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United
20 States, including JBLM, during the early 2000s under the name Chubb National Foam, Inc.

21 112. On information and belief, Defendant Chem Inc. does business throughout the
22 United States, including in Washington. Chem Inc. designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold
23 AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.
24

1 113. On information and belief, Defendant Clariant does business throughout the United
2 States and is registered to do business in Washington. Clariant designed, manufactured, marketed,
3 and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States,
4 including JBLM.

5 114. On information and belief, Defendant Corteva does business throughout the United
6 States and registered to do business in Washington. Corteva designed, manufactured, marketed,
7 and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States,
8 including JBLM.

9 115. On information and belief, Defendant Daikin does business throughout the United
10 States, including in Washington. Daikin designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF that
11 was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

12 116. On information and belief, Defendant Deepwater does business throughout the
13 United States, including in Washington. Deepwater designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold
14 AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

15 117. On information and belief, Defendant DuPont does business throughout the United
16 States, and is registered to do business in Washington. DuPont designed, manufactured, marketed,
17 and sold AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States,
18 including JBLM.

19 118. On information and belief, Defendant New DuPont does business throughout the
20 United States, including in Washington. New DuPont designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold
21 AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

22 119. On information and belief, Defendant Dynax does business throughout the United
23 States, including in Washington. Dynax designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF that
24

1 was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

2 120. On information and belief, Defendant Kidde does business throughout the United
3 States, including in Washington. It developed, designed, manufactured, marketed, sold, and
4 distributed AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM,
5 from approximately 2000 through 2013.

6 121. On information and belief, Defendant Kidde-Fenwal does business throughout the
7 United States, including in Washington. It designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold AFFF to
8 military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM, from approximately
9 1991 through the present.

10 122. On information and belief, Defendant Nation Ford does business throughout the
11 United States, including in Washington. Nation Ford designed, manufactured, marketed, and sold
12 AFFF that was used on military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

13 123. On information and belief, Defendants Tyco (and its predecessor Ansul) does
14 business throughout the United States, including in Washington. Tyco, Ansul and National Foam
15 developed, designed, manufactured, marketed, sold, and distributed AFFF to military facilities and
16 bases throughout the United States, including JBLM, from approximately 1974 through the
17 present.

18 124. On information and belief, Defendant Raytheon does business throughout the
19 United States, including in Washington. It developed, designed, manufactured, marketed, sold, and
20 distributed AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM,
21 from approximately 2003 to 2013.

22 125. On information and belief, Defendant Carrier Fire & Security does business
23 throughout the United States, including in Washington. It designed, manufactured, marketed, and
24

1 sold AFFF to military facilities and bases throughout the United States, including JBLM.

2 126. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants developed, manufactured,
3 marketed, distributed, and/or sold AFFF to the Air Force and the Army at various times throughout
4 the relevant operative period (e.g., approximately 1960 through 2016). During this period, the Air
5 Force and the Army distributed AFFF to military bases and facilities, including JBLM.

6 127. On information and belief, some Manufacturer Defendants continue to develop,
7 design, manufacture, market, sell, and distribute AFFF.

8 ***Defendants knew and failed to provide notice that AFFF was toxic.***

9 128. On information and belief, by at least the 1970s, Defendants knew of the risks of
10 PFAS, including AFFF, to the environment and human health.

11 129. As documented by a research arm of the U.S. Navy in a Naval Ocean Systems
12 Center (“NOSC”) study, the military was aware of toxicity studies showing harmful PFAS effects
13 to a variety of organisms dating back to at least 1973.

14 130. In addition to reviewing nonmilitary studies, U.S. military investigators conducted
15 their own studies. For instance, in 1973, the Air Force conducted a study to assess AFFF’s toxicity
16 effects on fish in controlled laboratory experiments. One AFFF formulation tested, FC-200 Light
17 Water, was manufactured by 3M and was on the Qualified Products List for AFFF meeting military
18 specification MIL-F-24385.

19 131. A 1985 literature survey by NOSC concluded that “usage of AFFF and the disposal
20 of AFFF-laden wastewater have the potential for an adverse impact on the environment -- these
21 foams are potentially toxic due to the fluorocarbons and surfactants.” NOSC references toxicity
22 studies showing impacts on a variety of organisms in the 1970s and 1980s. It also analyzes several
23 studies conducted by 3M in 1980 showing AFFF’s lethality at various concentrations across a 96-
24 hour timeframe. NOSC concludes these “earlier studies demonstrated that a wide range of toxic

1 concentrations exist for a variety of organisms.”

2 132. 3M knew as early as the 1950s that PFAS bioaccumulates in humans and animals.

3 133. A 1956 study at Stanford University concluded that the PFAS manufactured by 3M
4 binds to proteins in blood.

5 134. By the early 1960s, 3M also understood that PFAS are stable, persist in the
6 environment, and do not degrade.

7 135. In 1970, the authors of a scientific journal article conducted tests on a 3M product
8 that contained PFAS and observed that it was “highly derogatory to marine life”; “the entire test
9 program had to be abandoned to avoid severe local stream pollution.”

10 136. Studies undertaken by 3M in the 1970s demonstrated that PFAS were even “more
11 toxic than was previously believed.”

12 137. A 1978 study by 3M on PFOA and PFOS specifically confirmed that “these
13 chemicals are likely to persist in the environment for extended periods unaltered by microbial
14 catabolism.”

15 138. In 1979, a 3M scientist recognized that PFAS posed a cancer risk because they are
16 “known to persist for a long time in the body and thereby give long-term chronic exposure.”

17 139. In the 1970s, 3M began a major program to review personnel handling of
18 fluorochemicals. 3M’s monitoring confirmed that fluorochemicals could bioaccumulate.

19 140. The potential loss of profits drove 3M to engage in a deliberate campaign to
20 influence the science relating to PFAS and, according to internal company documents, to conduct
21 scientific “research” that it could use to mount “defensive barriers to litigation.”

22 141. A key priority of an internal 3M committee was to “[c]ommand the science”
23 concerning the “exposure, analytical, fate, effects, human health and ecological” risks posed by
24

1 PFAS and for 3M to provide “[s]elective funding of outside research through 3M ‘grant’ money.”

2 142. In exchange for providing grant money to researchers, 3M obtained the right to
3 review and edit drafts of papers on PFAS and sought control over when and whether these papers
4 were published at all.

5 143. Under pressure from EPA, on May 16, 2000, 3M announced it would phase out
6 production of two synthetic chemicals, PFOS and PFOA, which it had developed more than 50
7 years earlier. On information and belief, 3M ceased production of PFOS-based AFFF in 2002.

8 144. An EPA internal memo on the day of 3M’s phase-out announcement stated: “3M
9 data supplied to EPA indicated that these chemicals are very persistent in the environment, have a
10 strong tendency to accumulate in human and animal tissues and could potentially pose a risk to
11 human health and the environment over the long term. [PFOS] appears to combine Persistence,
12 Bioaccumulation, and Toxicity properties to an extraordinary degree.”

13 145. In contrast, 3M stated in its news release on the same event that “our products are
14 safe,” while extolling their “principles of responsible environmental management” as driving the
15 decision to cease their production.

16 146. Defendants had a duty, which they breached, to notify EPA when they had reason
17 to believe that a substance or mixture—such as PFAS—presented a substantial risk of injury to
18 health or the environment.

19 147. Prior to about 1983, no containment measures were listed in MSDSs, nor were the
20 dangers to health or the environment inherent in AFFF disclosed in the instructions, warning
21 labels, or product packaging for AFFF.

22 148. By about 1983, MSDSs for certain AFFF products directed users to collect AFFF
23 before discharging to a wastewater treatment system and/or to contain liquid materials containing
24

1 PFAS to prevent spilled material from reaching sewers or waterways.

2 149. By 2010, SDSs for certain AFFF products directed users to contain accidental
3 releases by stopping the flow of the material, utilizing a dike for the spilled material, and
4 preventing entry into waterways, sewers, basements, or confined spaces. For large spill releases,
5 SDS procedures required diking the spill for later disposal; use of noncombustible materials such
6 as vermiculite, sand, or earth to soak up the product; and containerizing the product for later
7 disposal.

8 150. By 2010, following product recovery, SDS procedures for certain AFFF products
9 required flushing the area with water and cleaning the surface thoroughly to remove residual
10 contamination. MSDSs for some AFFF products provided instructions for users not to release
11 AFFF to local wastewater treatment plant without permission.

12 151. Between about 1983 and the present, the MSDSs and SDSs, instructions, warning
13 labels, and product packaging did not fully describe or adequately warn users of AFFF health and
14 environmental risks, or of all precautions they should take—risks and precautions that Defendants
15 knew or should have known existed.

16 152. On information and belief, existing stocks of PFOA and PFOS may still be used,
17 and PFOA and PFOS may be contained in some imported articles, at JBLM.

18 153. In the 1970s, Manufacturer Defendants began making AFFF that included shorter
19 carbon chain PFAS. On information and belief, those other PFAS also are highly soluble,
20 persistent, bioaccumulative, and toxic to humans.

21 154. On information and belief, some or all of the Manufacturer Defendants continue to
22 develop, manufacture, and/or sell AFFF containing other PFAS compounds with six carbon atoms
23 (“Short Chain PFAS”), rather than eight carbon atoms (“Long Chain PFAS,” like PFOS and
24

1 PFOA).

2 155. On information and belief, Short Chain PFAS also accumulate in blood and other
3 tissues and will persist indefinitely in the environment, posing threats to the environment and
4 health.

5 156. On information and belief, Short Chain PFAS are harder to remove from the
6 environment than Long Chain PFAS and can break through carbon filtration systems more easily.

7 157. On information and belief, there are at least 24 firefighting foam products currently
8 on the market that do not contain PFAS, including products manufactured by Angus Fire Ltd.,
9 Auxquimia, S.A.U., Dafo Fomtec AB, and The Solberg Company, which are economically and
10 technologically feasible.

11 ***The United States knew that AFFF use would cause groundwater contamination.***

12 158. At all times relevant to this action, the United States knew that surface soil at JBLM
13 was gravelly and sandy. A 1986 Air Force site report identified that two water-bearing zones exist
14 within the upper 225 feet beneath JBLM, with that closest to the surface being highly permeable.
15 The Air Force specifically noted in this report that the “gravelly soil found throughout much of the
16 basin readily accepts [] effluents.”

17 159. The United States knew the propensity for contaminants placed on the ground at
18 JBLM, including in unlined ponds and pits and other drainage areas, to percolate into the Aquifers.

19 160. The United States also knew that water-soluble contaminants like PFAS would
20 migrate through the aquifer with groundwater flow.

21 161. In *Clark v. United States*, 660 F. Supp. 1164 (W.D. Wash. 1987), *aff’d*, 856 F.2d
22 1433 (9th Cir. 1988)—a case involving groundwater contamination caused by the Air Force—the
23 U.S. District Court of the Western District of Washington found it has been “common knowledge
24 [since the 1950s] that groundwater could be polluted and that the pollution could travel great

1 distances from the site of the original contamination. Further, it was generally known before that
2 time that percolation, a process by which substances disposed of would leach into the underlying
3 groundwater, could occur and that groundwater needed to be protected from deleterious leachates.”
4 *Id.* at 1171–72 (setting forth findings of fact). These findings have an issue-preclusive effect for
5 claims against the United States involving these matters. *See generally Shoemaker v. City of*
6 *Bremerton*, 745 P.2d 858, 860 (Wash. 1987) (holding that an issue is precluded when it is identical
7 to an issue decided in an earlier proceeding; there was a final judgment on the merits; the party
8 against whom issue preclusion is asserted was a party to, or in privity with a party to, the earlier
9 proceeding; and applying issue preclusion is not unjust against the party to whom it is applied).

10 162. Since at least 1970, the United States has known that AFFF discharge and runoff
11 into surface waters and drainage areas would result in infiltration of water-soluble pollutants like
12 PFAS into groundwater underlying JBLM.

13 163. The United States knew the close proximity of the City’s drinking water wells to
14 JBLM. It was a reasonably foreseeable consequence that the United States, through the Air Force
15 and the Army, would contaminate the Aquifers and the City’s wells.

16 ***The United States used and released AFFF at JBLM.***

17 164. In 1970, the United States began using AFFF at military installations, including
18 JBLM, during firefighting training activities and to extinguish fuel-based fires.

19 165. Approximately 75% of the military’s AFFF inventory is PFAS-based. For the past
20 30 years, 3M was the primary supplier of AFFF to the DOD stock system that supplied military
21 bases, including JBLM.

22 166. The military’s Qualified Products Database listed 3M AFFF products as early as
23 1970, and Tyco products as early as 1976. The other Manufacturer Defendants provided AFFF to
24 the DOD at various times from about 1973 to the present.

1 167. According to a 2011 DOD risk alert document, “through 2001, the DOD purchased
2 AFFF from 3M and/or Ansul, Inc. 3M supplied PFOS-based AFFF under the product name, 3M
3 Light Water AFFF.”

4 168. JBLM spans over 414,080 acres. Thousands of gallons of AFFF manufactured by
5 Manufacturer Defendants was used and/or stored by the United States at JBLM from
6 approximately 1970 through at least 2018.

7 169. The AFFF manufactured by Manufacturer Defendants was expected to reach JBLM
8 without substantial change in the condition in which it was distributed and sold to the Air Force
9 and to the Army, and it did.

10 170. Air Force and Army personnel used AFFF in training exercises and other activities
11 at JBLM, including firefighting and explosion training.

12 171. The United States discharged and disposed spent AFFF to the environment at
13 JBLM. The United States’ discharge and disposal of spent AFFF, including its PFAS component,
14 includes, but is not limited to, releases and discharges into soil and water pathways that connect
15 JBLM to the City’s property, wells, and systems.

16 172. The Air Force has acknowledged that “once in groundwater, PFAS are highly
17 mobile and will migrate at a velocity near that of groundwater because of their high solubility and
18 low partition coefficient value.” Yet at JBLM, the United States shut down its contaminated
19 wells—knowing that doing so would facilitate migration of PFAS in the aquifer and toward City
20 wells.

21 173. On information and belief, the United States disposed AFFF at JBLM by, for
22 example, washing it into its stormwater system, which ultimately discharged to Clover Creek.

23 174. For instance, training, exercises, and fire response activities occurred on open
24

ground at JBLM, causing PFAS waste to drain into soil, groundwater, surface waters, wetlands, ponds, and ditches.

175. In a 2018 site inspection report, the United States identified at least 52 potential source areas located in over 20 general areas at JBLM for AFFF releases, including:

- Fire Training Areas (“FT”) numbered 17, 27, 28, and 30-32; Solid Waste Management Unit 47, and “Area of Concern” 15;
- Fire Equipment Testing Areas; Hangars with AFFF Systems, including hangars 1-7, 9-10, 13, 301, 3063, 3098, 3101, 3106, 3146, and 3273;
- AFFF Storage Areas;
- Areas utilizing Emergency Response Equipment;
- Landfills including 4, 5, 12, 13 and 54;
- Multiple locations where personnel used products potentially containing PFAS compounds for various processes;
- Fire Stations 1, 7, 102, and 105;
- Aircraft Accident Response Areas; and
- Various other areas, including: Clover Creek, Historic Wash Rack and Taxiway D, Gray Field Wash Rack, Current Wash Rack, AFFF Sump between Hangars 5 and 6, AFFF Sump between Hangars 9 and 10, AFFF Sump West of Hangar 13, Flight line Infield – 4 Aviation Fuel, Main Bulk Fuel Tank Farm, Stormwater Drainage Swale near Hangar 3273, Stormwater Drainage Swale near Hangar 3146, and Building 3099.

176. Interviews with JBLM personnel and historical records identified firefighting training exercises and routine adjustment of the foam spray patterns of Airport Rescue Fire Fighting (“ARFF”) vehicles as the most significant discharges of AFFF directly to the environment.

177. During adjustment of ARFF foam spray patterns, foam was sprayed onto and around the perimeter of runways at the former McChord Air Force Base, now part of JBLM, and the resultant foam was washed off the runways to adjacent permeable areas. Specific discharge

1 areas include the area adjacent to Fire Station 105, the taxiway outside Hangar 1, and the area
2 across the taxiway to the northwest of Hangar 2.

3 178. ARFF spray patterns were conducted almost daily at the areas described in
4 paragraph 151 until approximately 2010.

5 179. When ARFF reservoirs were refilled, “considerable volume of the foam
6 concentrate spill[ed] on the vehicles and ground and was wash[ed] off the pavement to the nearest
7 drain or permeable area.”

8 180. The fire-fighting training exercises occurred in areas located at McChord Field to
9 the east of the runway, at Fort Lewis’ Gray Field on the northeast portion of the airfield, and
10 approximately one quarter mile to the southeast of Gray Field.

11 181. The fire training pit of former Fort Lewis known as FTLE17 is a large, shallow
12 swale approximately six feet below the elevation of the adjacent taxiway. Between 1962 and 1982,
13 the military used FTLE17 for air-crash rescue operation training, and unknown quantities of AFFF
14 to extinguish fuel fires.

15 182. Fire Training Areas 27, 28, 30 and 31 were unlined pits covering less than a quarter
16 of an acre each. During training exercises there, the United States filled the bottom of the pit with
17 a few inches of water, then added fuel and ignited it. The fire was then extinguished with AFFF.

18 183. From 1960 to at least 1990, the United States conducted at least 24 fire training
19 exercises annually at FT-27, using about 300 gallons of fuel per exercise. Based on this
20 information, while FT-27 was operational, the United States would have used approximately
21 216,000 gallons of AFFF. Assuming a dilution at 3%, approximately 7.2 million gallons of water
22 contaminated with PFAS would have been discharged to the ground

23 184. The United States conducted 40 to 50 training exercises at FT-28 for one to two
24

1 years in the early 1960s. An unknown amount of AFFF was discharged to the environment during
2 the course of those exercises.

3 185. From 1955 to at least 1960, the United States conducted at least 35 fire training
4 exercises at FT-30, using about 300 gallons of fuel per exercise. Based on this information, while
5 FT-30 was operational, the United States would have used approximately 52,500 gallons of AFFF.
6 Assuming a dilution at 3%, approximately 1.75 million gallons of water contaminated with PFAS
7 would have been discharged into the ground.

8 186. From 1950 to at least 1955, the United States conducted at least 35 training
9 exercises each year at FT-31, using about 300 gallons of fuel per exercise. Based on this
10 information, while FT-31 was operational, the United States would have used approximately
11 45,000 gallons of AFFF. Assuming a dilution at 3%, approximately 1.5 million gallons of water
12 contaminated with PFAS would have been discharged to the ground.

13 187. FT-32, a former firefighting training pit built in 1975 and used until 1990, was lined
14 with clay. Jet fuel was delivered to the pit from a tank through a gravity sprinkler system to
15 minimize spill potential. The pit drained through an oil/water separator into a holding tank and
16 discharged to the sanitary sewer connected to the Publicly Owned Treatment Works ("POTW") at
17 Fort Lewis. During training exercises, the United States filled the bottom of the pit with a few
18 inches of water, added fuel and then ignited it. The fire was then extinguished with AFFF.

19 188. From 1975 to 1990, the United States conducted approximately 10 fire training
20 exercises at FT-32 each year using about 300-400 gallons of fuel per exercise. Based on this
21 information, while FT-32 was operational, the United States would have used approximately
22 52,500 gallons of AFFF. Assuming a dilution at 3%, approximately 1.75 million gallons of water
23 contaminated with PFAS would have been discharged into the ground.
24

1 189. The Air Force ceased fire training exercises at FT-32 in the early 1990s. The current
2 fire training area (also known as FT-32) was constructed over the old FT-32. The training area pit
3 now drains into an adjacent holding pond and discharges to the sanitary sewer connected to the
4 Publicly Owned Treatment Works at Fort Lewis.

5 190. FT-32 was excavated in the late 1990s; the excavated soil was placed in Landfill
6 13, where it has the potential to leach into the groundwater.

7 191. A number of JBLM landfills received municipal wastes that likely contain PFAS
8 sources. The United States, through the Air Force and the Army, disposed of biosolids from its
9 JBLM wastewater treatment plant (“WWTP”) in Landfill 5. The United States acknowledges that
10 current treatment processes at JBLM’s WWTP are not always effective at removing PFAS.
11 Therefore, biosolids generated by JBLM’s WWTP likely contain PFAS. Landfill 5 includes
12 stormwater infiltration.

13 192. On information and belief, fire extinguishing systems utilizing AFFF contained
14 very high volumes of PFAS. AFFF was released from the fire extinguishing systems in multiple
15 hangars—for example, in Hangars 4 and 6 in 2012 and 2009, respectively. At Hangar 4, the United
16 States released approximately 3,000 gallons, and the foam accumulated to a depth of
17 approximately 20 feet on the hangar floor. At Hangar 6, the spilled foam accumulated to a depth
18 of approximately three feet on the hangar floor.

19 193. In December 2000, a pressurized fiberglass pipe broke in the fire-suppression
20 system of Hangar 2 at McChord Air Force Base, spilling a 1,000 gallon tank of AFFF onto the
21 hangar floor. According to JBLM accounts, much of the spill was caught by catch basins and
22 trenches; however, at least 100 gallons of AFFF made its way through storm drains into Clover
23 Creek flowing through the City of Lakewood.
24

194. At McChord Hangars 7 and 13; Gray Field Hangars 3063, 3098, 3106, 3146; and Gray Field temporary building 3099, the reservoirs in mechanical rooms leaked, releasing AFFF concentrate to floor drains connected to the sanitary sewer system. The volume of concentrate released ranged from one pint (at Hangar 3063 mechanical room) to 1,500 gallons (Hangar 13 mechanical room).

195. Two ongoing low-volume releases occurred at Hangars 6 and 10, releasing an unknown volume of AFFF.

196. On information and belief, other current or historical sources at JBLM released PFAS to the environment, including dry wells, waterproofing operations for canvas, laundry operations, vehicle wash racks, and hydraulic fluids at the Logistics Center.

197. The United States conducted testing between January and April 2017 of 23 drinking water sources at JBLM. The tests confirmed the presence of PFAS in five JBLM drinking water wells at concentrations ranging from 78 to 250 ppt, exceeding the EPA's Health Advisory values.

198. Between June and December 2018, the United States conducted groundwater testing at 50 potential source areas at JBLM, with PFOS and PFOA concentrations exceeding the EPA Health Advisory limits at 44 of those sites.

Specific and mandatory laws and directives prohibited the United States' actions.

199. The United States' PFAS discharges violated mandatory laws, regulations, policies, and instructions, including, but not limited to: mandatory Air Force Instructions; the Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. §§ 1251 *et seq.*; the Washington Water Pollution Control Act, Chapter 90.48 RCW; and at least one Executive Order.

The United States violated mandatory duties under federal law.

200. The Clean Water Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1311, prohibits the discharge of pollutants from a point source into the waters of the United States without a National Pollution Discharge

1 Elimination System (“NPDES”) permit.

2 201. As of this writing, the primary known PFAS contaminants at and around JBLM,
3 PFOA and PFOS, are not listed as hazardous substances under the Comprehensive Environmental
4 Response, Compensation and Liability Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601 *et seq.* (40 CFR Part 302, Table
5 302.4). The Air Force, however, has determined that PFOS and PFOA are “CERCLA pollutants
6 or contaminants.”

7 202. Further, PFAS, and AFFF containing PFAS, are “pollutants” under the Clean Water
8 Act, 33 U.S.C. § 1362(6).

9 203. The United States, through the Air Force, obtained a NPDES permit (No.
10 WA002510-1 issued to McChord Air Force Base) to discharge water from oil/water separator
11 number two to Clover Creek. The permit was in effect at least from 1983 through 1986, and did
12 not allow JBLM to discharge AFFF or other PFAS.

13 204. The United States, through the Army, obtained a NPDES permit (No. WA-002195-
14 4 issued to JBLM) to discharge wastewater from outfall 001 at Solo Point Wastewater Treatment
15 Plant. The permit was in effect from April 1, 2012 to April 1, 2017, and did not allow JBLM to
16 discharge AFFF or other PFAS.

17 205. The United States, through the Air Force, obtained NPDES permit number WAS-
18 026638 (issued to JBLM) to discharge municipal stormwater to the State of Washington’s
19 groundwater and to waters of the United States, including Murray Creek, Clover Creek, and Puget
20 Sound. The permit was in effect from December 25, 2013 to September 30, 2018; it did not allow
21 JBLM to discharge AFFF or PFAS.

22 206. On information and belief, from 1972 to at least 2018, through the actions and
23 omissions described herein, the United States unlawfully discharged PFAS at JBLM from sources
24

1 including, but not limited to, oil/water separator number two, the municipal separate storm sewer
2 system, and Solo Point Wastewater Treatment Plant.

3 207. The United States violated a mandatory duty when it discharged PFAS in violation
4 of these NPDES permits. This United States' actions are also *per se* negligence.

5 208. On June 25, 2020, the City submitted a FOIA request for documentation of all
6 NPDES permits issued to JBLM or McChord Air Force Base from 1972 to the present. On July 2,
7 2020, the City submitted a FOIA request for documentation of all NPDES permits issued to Fort
8 Lewis and/or Gray Army Airfield from 1972 to the present. While the City has not yet received
9 the requested permits, on information and belief, they contain mandatory rules and directives for
10 times relevant to this action prohibiting discharge of AFFF and other PFAS.

11 ***The United States violated mandatory duties under state law.***

12 209. The Clean Water Act waives the federal government's sovereign immunity for all
13 state, interstate and local requirements pertaining to water, and makes such requirements (in
14 addition to the Clean Water Act itself) applicable to the United States. 33 U.S.C. § 1323. This
15 statutory provision was and is applicable to the United States at all times relevant to this Complaint.

16 210. Under the Washington State Water Pollution Control Act, Chapter 90.48 RCW, it
17 is unlawful to drain or discharge "pollutants" into groundwater without a permit. *See, e.g.*, RCW
18 90.48.080 and 90.48.160 through 90.48.200.

19 211. PFAS, and AFFF containing them, are "pollution" under RCW 90.48.020.

20 212. The United States never obtained a state permit to release PFAS or AFFF into
21 groundwater.

22 213. From 1970 through approximately 1991, the United States released PFAS and
23 AFFF into groundwater through the actions and omissions described above. These actions and
24

1 omissions include, but are not limited to, firefighting training activities, ARFF vehicle spray
2 pattern testing, fire truck testing, emergency response actions, accidental storage releases, and
3 discharge into the stormwater system.

4 214. The United States caused PFAS contamination to public and private water supplies,
5 violating RCW 70.54.010.

6 215. Through intentional acts, the United States contaminated the groundwater and
7 created a public nuisance violating RCW 7.48.140.

8 216. Thus, the United States violated mandatory duties imposed by state law and made
9 applicable to it under 33 U.S.C. § 1323.

10 217. The United States' actions violating mandatory duties imposed by state law were
11 intentional and also constitute *per se* negligence.

12 ***The United States violated mandatory duties under Executive Order, Air Force Instructions,***
13 ***and Army Regulations.***

14 218. Army protocols for hangar fire suppression systems require temporary measures to
15 prevent AFFF from entering storm drains, drainage ditches, streams, and water courses; prohibit
16 AFFF concentrate or solution from coming into contact with earth; require containment of all
17 AFFF discharge on paved surfaces; require collection of all discharged AFFF, flushing water, and
18 disposal to an EPA-approved wastewater treatment facility that provides secondary treatment; and
19 require submission of a written plan for AFFF containment and disposal methods for approval.

20 219. As described above, the Army did not capture, contain, and properly dispose of
21 AFFF released in aircraft hangars at JBLM as required by Army protocols for hangar fire
22 suppression systems. AFFF was intentionally released, discharged, and disposed of into storm
23 drains, drainage ditches, streams, and water courses after use in hangar fire suppression systems.
24 AFFF was discharged directly to the soil or pavement and was not collected and contained.

1 220. On information and belief, the Army did not submit a written plan for approval of
2 AFFF containment and disposal methods at JBLM.

3 221. The following Army Regulations governed wastewater, water quality, and
4 environmental quality management at JBLM:

5 a) Army Regulation 200-1, Environmental Protection and Enhancement, March 21,
6 1997, amended December 13, 2007 (effective through the present) ("AR 200-1").

7 b) Army Regulation 200-3, Natural Resources – Land, Forest, and Wildlife
8 Management, March 28, 1995 (effective through August 28, 2007) ("AR 200-3"). AR 200-3 is
superseded by AR 200-1 (December 13, 2007).

9 c) Army Regulation 420-1, Army Facilities Management, November 1, 2007,
amended December 12, 2008 (effective through the present) ("AR 420-1").

10 d) Army Regulation 420-49, Utility Services, May 28, 1997 (effective through
11 November 1, 2007) ("AR 420-49"). AR 420-49 is superseded by AR 420-1 (November 1, 2007).

12 222. AR 200-1 contains mandatory instructions on how to manage water resources and
13 water quality, requiring the Army to: "control or eliminate sources of pollutants and contaminants
14 to protect water resources; obtain and comply with wastewater discharge permits; and identify and
implement pollution prevention initiatives."

15 223. On information and belief, from March 21, 1997 to the present, the Army did not
16 control or eliminate sources of PFAS contamination to protect water resources and did not identify
17 and implement pollution prevention initiatives with respect to AFFF use and PFAS releases, as
18 described above. The Army did not comply with wastewater discharge permits as they did not
19 allow for disposal of AFFF/PFAS into the sewer system.

20 224. AR 200-3 required Army operations to protect environmentally sensitive areas,
21 specifically aquifer recharge zones, and required "all reasonable efforts...be made to protect the
22 land and water resources to minimize loss, degradation, or destruction... [and] to control sources
23 of pollutants harmful to the land and its resources." It did not do so.

1 225. On information and belief, from March 28, 1995 through August 28, 2007, the
2 Army did not protect aquifer recharge zones at JBLM, did not make all reasonable efforts to protect
3 the land and water resources from degradation and destruction from PFAS contamination, and did
4 not control sources of PFAS pollution, as described above.

5 226. AR 420-1 and AR 420-49 both require that the Army prevent and control surface
6 and ground water pollution, including oil/water separators, in accordance with AR 200-1. Both
7 regulations also require that wastewater treatment plant effluent be treated to meet NPDES permit
8 requirements.

9 227. On information and belief, from May 28, 1997 through the present, the Army did
10 not prevent and control surface and ground water pollution in accordance with 200-1, as described
11 above. Army treatment of wastewater treatment plant effluent did not comply with NPDES permit
12 requirements as the permits did not allow effluent to contain PFAS.

13 228. Air Force Instruction 32-1067, dated February 4, 2015, titled Civil Engineering:
14 Water and Fuel Systems (“AFI 32-1067”) contains mandatory instructions on handling wastewater
15 and PFAS. The Air Force explicitly states in the instruction that “compliance with this publication
16 is mandatory.” On information and belief, AFI 32-1067 became effective on February 4, 2015,
17 and remains in effect.

18 229. AFI 32-1067 requires the United States to “collect and manage industrial
19 wastewater (e.g., wastewater discharge from aircraft hangar accidental release of firefighting foam
20 solution) as a hazardous waste per AFI 32-7042, *Waste Management*, if regulations or permit limits
21 prohibit discharging such wastewater into domestic or other non-industrial sewer systems.”

22 230. Under RCRA, 42 U.S.C. §§ 6901, *et seq.*, hazardous waste is subject to strict
23 requirements for containment, storage, treatment, and disposal. These requirements govern all Air
24

1 Force Instructions directing the Air Force to handle industrial wastewater, AFFF discharges, and
2 other PFAS releases as hazardous waste, including, but not limited to, AFI 32-1067 (February 4,
3 2015); AFI 32-1067 (April 3, 2013); AFI 32-1067 (March 25, 1994); Air Force Regulation
4 (“AFR”) 91-10 (January 2, 1990); AFR 91-9 (December 1, 1989); AFI 32-7041 (December 10,
5 2003), and AFI 32-7041 (May 13, 1994).

6 231. AFI 32-1067 prohibits the United States from discharging PFAS, including PFOS,
7 PFOA, PFNA, PFHxS, and PFBS, to sanitary or storm systems unless otherwise permitted. It also
8 prohibits the Air Force from discharging firefighting foam containing PFAS to POTWs or
9 Federally Owned Treatment Works (“FOTWs”).

10 232. AFI 32-1067 requires the Air Force to capture, contain, and properly dispose PFAS-
11 containing firefighting solutions, including those discharged through fire suppression systems
12 testing and firefighting vehicles, to meet applicable regulatory requirements or policy directives.

13 233. Under AFI 32-1067, the Air Force may discharge firefighting solutions that do not
14 contain PFAS to the sanitary sewer only on approval from the receiving POTW or FOTW.

15 234. AFI 32-1067 specifies that for all military installations located in the United States,
16 domestic wastewater discharges require a NPDES permit from federal or delegated state regulatory
17 authorities. Installations that discharge to a POTW are indirect dischargers and must comply with
18 applicable POTW regulations, permits, and contractual agreements.

19 235. AFI 32-1067 requires that accidental releases of firefighting foam also be captured,
20 contained, and disposed to meet applicable regulatory requirements. A receiving POTW or FOTW
21 must first approve discharge of firefighting foam to the sanitary sewer. If metered release is not
22 approved, then the foam must be contained and disposed of following regulatory standards. Under
23 AFI 32-1067, firefighting foams of all types may not be released to stormwater conveyances.
24

236. On information and belief, from February 4, 2015 through at least 2018, the United States failed to capture, contain, or treat AFFF.

237. As described above, the Air Force did not capture, contain, and properly dispose as hazardous waste; PFAS in AFFF that were intentionally released, discharged, and disposed of at numerous unpermitted locations at JBLM, including fire training areas, hangar fire suppression systems, firefighting equipment and maintenance areas, and fuel spill and aircraft fire sites.

238. The following Air Force Instructions and Regulations also governed wastewater management at JBLM:

a) Air Force Instruction 32-7041, Civil Engineering: Water Quality Compliance, December 10, 2003 (effective through February 4, 2015) (“AFI 32-7041”). AFI 32-7041 is superseded by AFI 32-1067 (February 4, 2015).

b) Air Force Instruction 32-7041, Civil Engineering: Water Quality Compliance, May 13, 1994 (effective through December 10, 2003) (“AFI 32-7041”). AFI 32-7041 is superseded by AFI 32-7041 (December 10, 2003).

c) Air Force Instruction 32-1067, Civil Engineering: Water Systems, April 3, 2013 (effective through February 4, 2015) (“AFI 32-1067”). AFI 32-1067 is superseded by AFI 32-1067 (February 4, 2015).

d) Air Force Instruction 32-1067, Civil Engineering: Water Systems, March 25, 1994 (effective through April 3, 2013) (“AFI 32-1067”). AFI 32-1067 is superseded by AFI 32-1067 (April 3, 2013).

e) Air Force Regulation 91-10, January 2, 1990 (effective through March 25, 1994) (“AFR 91-10”). AFR 91-10 is superseded by AFI 32-1067 (March 25, 1994).

f) Air Force Regulation, 91-9, December 1, 1989 (effective through March 25, 1994) (“AFR 91-9”). AFR 91-9 is superseded by AFI 32-1067 (March 25, 1994).

239. Collectively, Air Force Instructions 32-7041 and 32-1067, and Air Force Regulations 91-10 and 91-9, contain mandatory instructions on handling wastewater discharges from December 1, 1989 through February 4, 2015. All these explicitly state that “compliance with this publication is mandatory.”

240. AFI 32-7041 (December 10, 2003) and AFI 32-7041 (May 13, 1994) require that

1 discharges to POTWs comply with applicable POTW regulations, permits, and contractual
2 agreements.

3 241. Both AFI 32-7041 (December 10, 2003) and AFI 32-7041 (May 13, 1994) prohibit
4 the Air Force from unauthorized discharge of certain industrial wastewaters to domestic
5 wastewater collection systems and require the Air Force to pretreat regulated industrial wastewater
6 to acceptable levels before discharge to domestic wastewater or other nonindustrial sewer systems.

7 242. Both AFI 32-7041 (December 10, 2003) and AFI 32-7041 (May 13, 1994) require
8 pretreatment to remove toxic, flammable, and corrosive characteristics from industrial wastewater
9 before discharge into a domestic wastewater system.

10 243. Both AFI 32-7041 (December 10, 2003) and AFI 32-7041 (May 13, 1994) require
11 that the Air Force collect and manage industrial wastewater as a hazardous waste per AFI 32-7042,
12 *Solid and Hazardous Waste Compliance*, if pretreatment is not practical or possible, and
13 regulations prohibit discharging such wastewater into domestic wastewater or other nonindustrial
14 sewer systems.

15 244. AFI 32-1067 (March 25, 1994), AFI 32-1067 (April 3, 2013), AFR 91-9, and AFR
16 91-10 require an Air Force base such as JBLM to adopt a standard wastewater treatment procedure
17 to govern the discharge of industrial and nondomestic waste to the sanitary system. Instructions
18 must describe pretreatment requirements, discharge procedures, and limitations for industrial
19 waste and generators must use pollution control techniques in AFI 32-7080, *Pollution Prevention*
20 *Programs* (formerly AFR 19-15), to minimize pollutant discharges. AFI 32-1067, AFR 91-10, and
21 AFR 91-9 also require treatment of hazardous waste and prohibit discharge of hazardous waste
22 to the collection system.

23 245. AFI 32-7041 (December 10, 2003) defines industrial wastewater as “wastewater
24

1 from industrial activities” and acknowledges that “[EPA] defines 11 categories of industrial
2 activities, some of which may apply to Air Force installations, including: (1) Air and ground
3 transportation facilities....”

4 246. AFI 32-7041 (May 13, 1994) requires the Air Force to operate new fire training
5 facilities as zero-discharge facilities that must protect groundwater, include a groundwater
6 monitoring system, and include double-lined basins with leak-detection systems.

7 247. Both AFI 32-1067 (March 25, 1994) and AFI 32-1067 (April 3, 2013) require that
8 the Air Force operate and maintain water pollution control facilities according to AFM 91-32 and
9 plant-specific O&M manuals, which are required for each major facility, and note that fire training
10 activities, vehicle and aircraft wash facilities, and operation and maintenance of oil/water
11 separators require special attention.

12 248. On information and belief, from December 10, 2003 through February 4, 2015, the
13 United States failed to comply with the mandatory obligations, including AFI 32-7041. AFFF
14 waste should have been treated as industrial wastewater because it was waste from JBLM, an air
15 and ground transportation facility.

16 249. The United States did not collect and manage PFAS as hazardous wastes at JBLM.
17 Instead, PFAS at JBLM were discharged and disposed of into the environment, including into soil,
18 surface water, and groundwater.

19 250. On information and belief, from May 13, 1994 through December 10, 2003, the
20 United States failed to comply with AFI 32-7041 at JBLM. AFFF waste should have been treated
21 as industrial wastewater. As industrial wastewater, the Air Force should have pretreated AFFF
22 before discharging it into the sewer system or should have collected and managed the AFFF as a
23 hazardous waste.

1 251. The United States discharged and disposed of AFFF at JBLM into the environment,
 2 including into soil, surface water and groundwater. Thus, the United States failed to either pretreat
 3 or deliver AFFF waste at JBLM to a POTW pursuant to authorization or to manage the AFFF as
 4 hazardous waste.

5 252. In addition, on information and belief, the United States failed to operate new fire
 6 training facilities as zero-discharge facilities at JBLM with groundwater monitoring systems and
 7 double-lined basins with leak-detection systems.

8 253. On information and belief, from December 1, 1989 through February 4, 2015, the
 9 United States failed to comply with AFR 91-9, AFR 91-10, and AFI 32-1067 at JBLM by failing
 10 to have a base standard wastewater treatment procedure for AFFF and by failing to handle PFAS
 11 as hazardous waste.

12 254. Air Force Instruction 32-7042, Civil Engineering: Waste Management, November
 13 7, 2014, revised February 8, 2017 (“AFI 32-7042”), contains the following mandatory instruction:

14 Inherent in the mission of the AF [Air Force] are the associated environmental responsibilities
 15 of protecting human health and the environment and ably managing the natural resources whose
 16 care has been entrusted to the AF. Where environmentally damaging materials are used, their
 17 use is minimized. If the use of such materials cannot be avoided, the spent material or waste is
 reused or recycled whenever feasible. As a last resort, spent material or waste that cannot be
 reused or recycled is disposed of in an environmentally safe manner, consistent with the
 requirements of all applicable laws.

18 255. Executive Order 11507, Prevention, Control, and Abatement of Air and Water
 19 Pollution at Federal Facilities, February 4, 1970 (effective through December 17, 1973) (“EO
 20 11507”) required federal agencies to:

21 ensure that all facilities under their jurisdiction are designed, operated, and maintained so as to
 22 meet the following requirements: No waste shall be disposed of or discharged in such a
 23 manner as could result in the pollution of ground water which would endanger the health or
 24 welfare of the public.

25 256. On information and belief, from 1970 to at least 2015, the United States discharged

1 and disposed of PFAS waste at JBLM in violation of AFI 32-7042 (Rev. 2017) and EO 11507, by
2 discharging AFFF into soil, surface water, and groundwater. This violation resulted in groundwater
3 pollution that endangers the health and welfare of the public.

4 257. As additional information becomes available regarding the United States' PFAS
5 use, handling, release, and disposal at JBLM, additional instructions, rules, manuals, and directives
6 may be implicated that are not specifically identified or cited in this Complaint. The City reserves
7 the right to incorporate additional laws, rules, manuals, instructions, directives or the like, as
8 additional information is discovered.

9 ***The United States' actions were not grounded in policy.***

10 258. The United States' PFAS releases and disposals were not based on considerations
11 of public policy, including social, economic, or political policy.

12 259. The laws, rules, directives, permits, instructions, and orders described above
13 forbade PFAS discharges to the environment and established requirements for the Air Force's
14 waste handling. They granted no authority to balance social, economic, or political concerns, and
15 none exist. Moreover, the prohibitions on discharges to the environment are absolute and require
16 no balancing of factors. Thus, none of the United States' actions releasing PFAS to the
17 environment were protected policy determinations.

18 260. Furthermore, there was and is no policy benefit to handling and disposing of AFFF
19 in violation of mandatory directives, contaminating groundwater with PFAS, or contaminating the
20 City's drinking water supply.

21 261. There is no policy benefit to trespassing on the City's land, acting negligently, and
22 creating a nuisance through PFAS releases into the City's water supply.

23 262. Properly handling, disposing, and treating PFAS posed and poses no threat to
24

1 national security or JBLM. In fact, such treatment was and is expressly required by laws and other
2 mandatory requirements, including the United States' directives and policies, discussed above.

3 ***The City has been damaged by Defendants' actions, and that damage is ongoing.***

4 263. On information and belief, the United States, acting through the Air Force and the
5 Army, owns, operates, and uses JBLM. The United States is now and has always been responsible
6 for activities and operations on JBLM. The United States' actions and omissions asserted herein
7 were made by Air Force and Army employees and personnel.

8 264. The United States stores and stored AFFF at JBLM.

9 265. The United States uses and used AFFF at JBLM.

10 266. In violation of mandatory directives, the United States did, and continues to,
11 discharge and dispose PFAS into the environment, including by spraying, storing, and placing
12 AFFF on land and in water at JBLM.

13 267. Groundwater data collected by the United States demonstrates that groundwater at
14 JBLM is impacted below AFFF-impacted areas. Once released to the environment at JBLM, PFAS
15 migrated from AFFF-impacted surface soils through the vadose zone to groundwater. Downward
16 migration through the vadose zone occurred through gravity-driven flow of AFFF fluids to the
17 subsurface, through the naturally occurring pore spaces in subsurface soils, and through dissolution
18 in infiltrating rainwater and other sources of recharge that also migrate through the vadose zone.

19 268. Groundwater beneath JBLM flows downgradient into the Aquifers from which the
20 City's wells draw water.

21 269. PFAS migrated, and continue migrating, from release areas at JBLM into the
22 Aquifers and have contaminated the City's groundwater supply sources, wells, and systems.

23 270. The PFAS contamination prevents the City from fully utilizing its property,
24

1 including its wells.

2 271. In March 2016, the United States took its contaminated wells at JBLM offline in
3 response to testing data showing that five wells were contaminated with PFAS at levels exceeding
4 EPA's Lifetime Healthy Advisory Limits: three wells on McChord Air Force Base and two on
5 Fort Lewis.

6 272. The United States shut down its wells at JBLM knowing that PFAS had migrated,
7 and continued to migrate, in the Aquifers, and threatened human health and the environment in
8 surrounding areas including the City. The United States' actions compounded the environmental
9 contamination and exposed more of the City to PFAS.

10 273. On information and belief, after discovering the PFAS contamination to its drinking
11 water wells at JBLM, the United States took no action to remove the PFAS from its property or
12 groundwater, or to stop PFAS from spreading to the City's property.

13 274. In December 2018, testing confirmed the presence of PFOA and PFOS in four out
14 of the five of the City's water supply wells with measured concentrations up to 58 ppt. The City
15 was required to begin designing and eventually installing filtration systems for all of its wells.
16 These systems have and will continue to require an enormous cost in finances, time, and resources.
17 Portions of the City's potable water infrastructure may require additional work, modification, and
18 repair. If not for the PFAS contamination, the City would not have incurred these costs.

19 275. The PFAS contamination caused by Defendants is not contained and continues to
20 spread into the City's property and groundwater supplies. By shutting down JBLM's contaminated
21 wells, the United States allowed increased migration of PFAS through the Aquifers.

22 276. If the Aquifers and contaminated soil are not remediated, PFAS contamination will
23 continue to impact the City's property far into the future due to the nature of PFAS, as described
24

1 above.

2 **FTCA CLAIMS (UNITED STATES)**

3 277. The City incorporates all averments in this Complaint as if restated fully herein.

4 278. Under the FTCA, the government is liable “in the same manner and to the same
5 extent as a private individual under like circumstances,” 28 U.S.C. § 2674, “in accordance with
6 the law of the place where the act or omission occurred,” 28 U.S.C. § 1346(b)(1). Courts resolve
7 questions of liability under the FTCA in accordance with the law of the state where the tortious
8 activity took place. *O’Connell v. United States*, 110 F. Supp. 612, 614–15 (E.D. Wash. 1953).

9 279. Claims submitted pursuant to the FTCA must meet the requirements set forth in 28
10 U.S.C. § 1346(b)(1) by being “civil actions on claims against the United States, for money
11 damages, accruing on and after January 1, 1945, for injury or loss of property, or personal injury
12 or death caused by the negligent or wrongful act or omission of any employee of the Government
13 while acting within the scope of his office or employment, under circumstances where the United
14 States, if a private person, would be liable to the claimant in accordance with the law of the place
15 where the act or omission occurred.”

16 280. The City hereby asserts civil claims against the United States for money damages
17 for property damages and losses, which accrued after 1945. The United States, through Air Force
18 and Army employees and officers, proximately caused the City’s damages and losses by releasing
19 PFAS to the environment, thereby violating mandatory directives and impermissibly exercising
20 discretion. Under these circumstances, the United States, if a private person, would be liable for
21 trespass, nuisance, and negligence under Washington State law.

22 **FIRST CLAIM FOR RELIEF–TRESPASS UNDER FTCA (UNITED STATES)**

23 281. The City incorporates all averments in this Complaint as if restated fully herein.

1 282. The United States trespassed, and continues to trespass, on the City’s property, by
2 contaminating the City’s property with PFAS. In Washington, “[a] trespass is an intrusion onto
3 the property of another that interferes with the other’s right to exclusive possession.” *Phillips v.*
4 *King Cty.*, 968 P.2d 871, 876 n.4 (Wash. 1998). The intrusion occurs when the actor causes
5 something else to enter property, including land and water. *See Arment v. Bickford*, 247 P. 952
6 (Wash. 1926) (holding water right a sufficient property interest for trespass).

7 283. “One is subject to liability to another for trespass...if he intentionally [or
8 negligently]: (a) enters land in the possession of the other, or causes a thing or a third person to do
9 so, or (b) remains on the land, or (c) fails to remove from the land a thing which he is under a duty
10 to remove.” *Bradley v. Am. Smelting & Ref. Co.*, 709 P.2d 782, 785 (Wash. 1985).

11 284. Trespass is a strict liability tort. It is not necessary that a trespasser knows that it,
12 or some instrumentality under its control, is invading another’s land. If the trespasser knows that
13 the consequences are certain, or substantially certain, to result from his act, then he is treated as
14 though the trespass was intentional. The trespass may be caused indirectly, including by the
15 wrongful discharge of contaminants. *Id.*

16 285. Trespass may be a permanent or continuing tort. For continuing trespass, the claim
17 continues to accrue as long as tortious conduct continues. *Woldson v. Woodhead*, 149 P.3d 361,
18 363–64 (Wash. 2006).

19 286. The United States intentionally sprayed, dumped, discharged, or disposed of AFFF
20 onto open ground, soil, and water at JBLM during firefighting training, emergency response, and
21 machine calibration activities.

22 287. At JBLM, the United States discharged wastewater contaminated with PFAS,
23 AFFF solution, and AFFF sludge into, *inter alia*, the sewer system, unlined pits, drainage ditches,
24

1 dry wells, sumps, landfills, and Clover Creek, where it leached into the environment.

2 288. These actions violated mandatory duties imposed on the United States by federal
3 and state law and therefore constituted *per se* negligence.

4 289. PFAS migrated from JBLM through groundwater into the Aquifers, to property
5 owned by the City, and into the groundwater for which the City possesses perfected water rights.
6 This property includes sites on which wells are, or could be, located.

7 290. Through intentionally releasing and disposing PFAS waste, the United States has
8 trespassed on the City's property.

9 291. The existence of PFAS beneath, and continued migration onto, the City's property
10 in the Aquifers constitute a continuing trespass.

11 292. The United States holds no right to possess the City's property.

12 293. The United States did not have the City's permission to place PFAS on, in, or
13 beneath the City's property, including sites where the City's wells are, or could be, located.

14 294. On information and belief, the United States knows and knew, or should have
15 known, that PFAS migrated or would migrate downgradient into the Aquifers, and into the City's
16 real property and water supply.

17 295. The United States intentionally and unreasonably failed to remediate or stop the
18 PFAS contamination from spreading to the City's property and water supplies.

19 296. The intrusion of PFAS into the City's property has caused the City to suffer
20 millions of dollars in damages, including costs to: assure water quality through the delivery system
21 by shutting down contaminated wells; educate and prevent customers from ingesting contaminated
22 water; respond to public inquiries and manage public relations regarding the contamination;
23 sample and analyze groundwater monitor and other media; permit, design, construct, maintain,
24

1 and operate filtration systems; and conduct additional response or remediation activities. The City
 2 anticipates it will have to incur over \$41 million in future costs to remove PFAS from its
 3 groundwater going forward (together, “City’s Past and Future Costs”).

4 297. The United States’ trespass has directly and proximately caused damage and
 5 destruction to the City’s property, causing economic loss.

7 **SECOND CLAIM FOR RELIEF – NUISANCE UNDER FTCA (UNITED STATES)**

8 298. The City incorporates all averments in this Complaint as if restated fully herein.

9 299. The United States created and continues to perpetuate a nuisance to the City by
 10 releasing and failing to remediate PFAS contamination that unreasonably and substantially
 11 interferes with the City’s use and enjoyment of its property.

12 300. In Washington, a “nuisance is an unreasonable interference with another’s use and
 13 enjoyment of property[.]” *Kitsap County v. Allstate Ins. Co.*, 964 P.2d 1173, 1185 (Wash. 1998);
 14 *see also* RCW 7.48.120 (“Nuisance consists in unlawfully doing an act, or omitting to perform a
 15 duty, which act or omission either annoys, injures or endangers the comfort, repose, health or
 16 safety of others, offends decency, or unlawfully interferes with, obstructs or tends to obstruct, or
 17 render dangerous for passage, any lake or navigable river, bay, stream, canal or basin, or any public
 18 park, square, street or highway; or in any way renders other persons insecure in life, or in the use
 19 of property.”).

20 301. If an activity is conducted unlawfully and it interferes with someone’s use and
 21 enjoyment of their property, it is a nuisance *per se*. If the activity is conducted lawfully, it only
 22 becomes a nuisance if it unreasonably interferes with a person’s use or enjoyment of property.
 23 *Tiegs v. Watts*, 954 P.2d 877, 879 (Wash. 1998).

1 302. To be unreasonable, and thus actionable, the interference must be unreasonable and
2 substantial. *City of Moses Lake v. United States*, 430 F. Supp. 2d 1164, 1184 (E.D. Wash. 2006).
3 The reasonableness of an interference is determined by weighing the harm to the aggrieved party
4 against the social utility of the activity. *Kitsap Cty. v. Kitsap Rifle & Revolver Club*, 337 P.3d 328,
5 339 (Wash. App. 2014). The interference also may be unintentional and negligent or reckless.
6 *Hostetler v. Ward*, 704 P.2d 1193, 1202 (Wash. App. 1985). Conduct constituting a nuisance can
7 include indirect or physical conditions created by the defendant that cause harm. *Bradley*, 709 P.2d
8 at 787. Nuisance may be a permanent or continuing tort. For continuing nuisance, the claim
9 continues to accrue as long as tortious conduct continues. *Wallace v. Lewis County*, 137 P.3d 101,
10 111 (Wash. App. 2006).

11 303. The United States directly and proximately caused, and continues to cause, PFAS
12 contamination of the City's property. Thus, the United States substantially invaded the City's
13 interests in the use and enjoyment of its property.

14 304. The United States violated mandatory duties imposed on it by federal and state law
15 when it used and disposed of PFAS without permits. This constitutes nuisance *per se* and
16 unreasonable interference with the City's use and enjoyment of its property rights.

17 305. The United States allowed and continues to allow PFAS to spread beyond JBLM
18 and to further invade the City's property.

19 306. The United States' actions have contaminated the City's water supplies with PFAS.
20 Due to the contamination, the City can no longer rely on some of its wells to supply its customers
21 with drinking water without first conducting expensive filtration or other treatment of
22 contaminated groundwater or re-constructing the wells to draw from deeper, less productive
23 aquifers.
24

1 307. The United States' interference is intentional, substantial, and unreasonable. The
2 Air Force and the Army intentionally and unreasonably discharged AFFF by spraying and
3 dumping it directly onto open ground, soil, and water at JBLM during firefighting training,
4 emergency response activities, machine calibration exercises, waste disposal processes, and spills
5 from storage failures.

6 308. The United States intentionally and unreasonably discharged PFAS effluent into
7 unlined pits, drainage ditches, dry wells, sumps, the stormwater system, landfills, and to Clover
8 Creek, where it leached into the soil and groundwater.

9 309. The United States intentionally and unreasonably failed to contain and handle
10 PFAS effluent and contaminated soil as hazardous waste.

11 310. The United States' intentional discharges were made knowing that they would
12 contaminate groundwater and result in PFAS migrating to the City's properties. These discharges
13 continued after the United States knew they had interfered with the use of the City's properties.

14 311. In the alternative, the United States' interferences are negligent because the United
15 States should have reasonably foreseen that its AFFF discharges would contaminate groundwater,
16 and the City's properties, with PFAS.

17 312. The United States' acts and omissions have caused PFAS's existence beneath, and
18 continued migration onto, the City's property and its presence in the City's groundwater supplies.
19 As a result, the City is compelled to forego use and enjoyment of its property, including certain
20 contaminated wells, which is offensive and injurious, and constitutes a continuing nuisance.

21 313. The intrusion of PFAS into the City's property has caused the City to suffer
22 millions of dollars in damages, including the City's Past and Future Costs.

23 314. The United States' conduct and other tortious acts have directly and proximately
24

1 caused damage and destruction to the City's property, causing economic loss.

2 **THIRD CLAIM FOR RELIEF – NEGLIGENCE UNDER FTCA (UNITED STATES)**

3 315. The City incorporates all averments in this Complaint as if restated fully herein.

4 316. The United States negligently discharged and disposed of PFAS and is failing to
5 remediate PFAS contamination.

6 317. In Washington, a defendant is negligent when the defendant owes a duty to the
7 plaintiff, the defendant breaches that duty, and the defendant's breach causes injury to the plaintiff.
8 *Keller v. City of Spokane*, 44 P.3d 845, 848 (Wash. 2002).

9 318. The United States owed, and still owes, a duty to the City to maintain its operations
10 and property to prevent a dangerous condition from escaping its land and causing damage to the
11 City's neighboring land. *City of Seattle v. Monsanto Co.*, 237 F. Supp. 3d 1096, 1107 (W.D. Wash.
12 2017).

13 319. The United States owed, and still owes, a duty of care to the public to comply with
14 the laws protecting water to ensure it created no health hazards or pollution of drinking water
15 supplies.

16 320. The United States' standard of care is defined in part by the numerous directives
17 that required special handling and disposal of AFFF, as well as its permits.

18 321. The body of federal and state water law creates a standard of care and the United
19 States' violations of these laws constitute *per se* negligence.

20 322. By mishandling and discharging AFFF to the environment, the United States
21 breached its duty to manage its operations and property as a reasonably careful person would.

22 323. The United States also breached its duty by failing to follow the standards and
23 requirements of numerous directives that required special handling and disposal of AFFF.
24

1 324. The negligently discharged AFFF contaminated the Aquifers and the City's
2 property.

3 325. The United States further breached its duty of care by shutting down its wells at
4 JBLM, thereby exacerbating the spread of PFAS contamination to the City's soil and groundwater,
5 and taking no action to prevent or treat the contamination.

6 326. The United States' negligence has and will continue to cause the City to suffer
7 millions of dollars in damages, including the City's Past and Future Costs.

8 327. The United States' conduct and other tortious acts have directly and proximately
9 caused damage and destruction to the City's property, causing economic loss.

10 **FOURTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – NEGLIGENCE (MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS)**

11 328. The City hereby incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the
12 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

13 329. Manufacturer Defendants had a duty to manufacture and/or market, distribute, and
14 sell their AFFF in a manner that avoided contamination of the environment, including municipal
15 water supplies, and avoided harm to those who would foreseeably come into contact with its
16 chemical components.

17 330. Manufacturer Defendants knew or should have known that the manufacture of AFFF
18 was hazardous to human health and the environment.

19 331. Manufacturer Defendants further knew or should have known that it was unsafe
20 and/or unreasonably dangerous to manufacture AFFF using PFAS because it was highly probable
21 that the chemicals would migrate into the environment, including the environment at military
22 installations such as JBLM, and contaminate groundwater used as a public water supply.

23 332. Knowing of the dangerous and hazardous properties of AFFF, Manufacturer
24

1 Defendants had the duty to warn of the hazards of consuming water containing PFAS.

2 333. The City was a foreseeable victim of the harm caused by the chemical components
3 of Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF.

4 334. Manufacturer Defendants negligently designed, engineered, developed, fabricated,
5 and tested AFFF and PFAS, negligently manufactured, and/or distributed and sold AFFF, and
6 negligently created the associated warnings and instructions.

7 335. Manufacturer Defendants thereby failed to exercise reasonable care to prevent
8 AFFF and its components from presenting an unreasonable risk to the health of persons who would
9 come in contact with them. Manufacturer Defendants also failed to exercise reasonable care to
10 prevent contamination of public and agricultural water supplies, including the City's water supply.

11 336. Manufacturer Defendants' negligent design, engineering, development,
12 fabrication, testing, warnings, and instructions constitute a pattern of continuous and ongoing
13 tortious conduct.

14 337. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants have engaged and continue to
15 engage in discrete acts of negligent design, engineering, development, fabrication, testing,
16 warnings, and instructions.

17 338. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants have not recalled their AFFF
18 products.

19 339. Manufacturer Defendants' breaches of their legal duties have caused PFAS to
20 contaminate the groundwater beneath and around JBLM, including groundwater in the Aquifers
21 that constitute the City's water rights.

22 340. Manufacturer Defendants' have caused, and will continue to cause, damage to the
23 City's property due to their negligent manufacture and/or distribution and sale of AFFF, and their
24

1 negligent misrepresentation and failure to warn causing PFAS to contaminate its water supply.

2 341. Manufacturer Defendants' negligent, reckless and/or intentional acts and omissions
3 alleged herein contaminated the groundwater in the Aquifers with PFAS.

4 342. Manufacturer Defendants' acts were willful, wanton, or reckless and conducted
5 with a reckless indifference to the rights and property of the City.

6 343. Manufacturer Defendants' conduct, and the resulting contamination of the Aquifers
7 by the chemical components of the Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF, caused the City to incur
8 significant costs.

9 344. The City's costs include those to: assure water quality through the delivery system
10 by shutting down contaminated wells; sample and analyze groundwater and other media; respond
11 to public inquiries and manage public relations regarding the contamination; treat groundwater,
12 including filtration systems, operations and maintenance; increase the frequency of water quality
13 testing and monitoring; other media management and disposal; and additional response costs.

14 345. In addition, the City has lost the value and marketability of its property and
15 property rights. As a result of the contamination, the City has lost use and enjoyment of its
16 properties and suffered injury.

17 **FIFTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – DEFECTIVE PRODUCT – FAILURE TO WARN**
18 **(MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS)**

19 346. The City hereby incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the
20 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if they were fully set forth herein.

21 347. This cause of action is brought pursuant to Washington State statutory law to
22 include but not limited to Chapter 7.72 RCW.

23 348. Under Washington State law, "a product manufacturer is subject to liability...if the
24 claimant's harm was proximately caused by the negligence of the manufacturer in that the product

1 was not reasonably safe as designed or not reasonably safe because adequate warnings or
2 instructions were not provided.” RCW 7.72.030(1).

3 349. Although RCW 7.72.030(1) expresses a negligence liability standard, the
4 Washington State Supreme Court has held that “[t]he adequacy of a manufacturer’s warnings are
5 to be measured under Washington’s strict liability test. *Taylor v. Intuitive Surgical, Inc.*, 389 P.3d
6 517, 528 (Wash. 2017) (applying strict liability standard established in *Restatement (Second) of*
7 *Torts* § 402A (Am. Law Inst. 1965) to failure to warn claim).

8 350. A product is not reasonably safe due to inadequate warnings or instructions if “at
9 the time of manufacture, the likelihood that the product would cause the claimant’s harm or similar
10 harms, and the seriousness of those harms, rendered the warnings or instructions of the
11 manufacturer inadequate and the manufacturer could have provided the warnings or instructions
12 which the claimant alleges would have been adequate.” RCW 7.72.030(1)(b).

13 351. Where a manufacturer learned, or where a reasonably prudent manufacturer should
14 have learned, about a danger connected with the product after it was manufactured, and did not
15 then provide adequate warnings or instructions, the product is not reasonably safe. RCW
16 7.72.030(1)(c).

17 352. In such a case, the manufacturer is under a duty to issue warnings or instructions in
18 the manner of a reasonably prudent manufacturer in the same or similar circumstances. This duty
19 is satisfied if the manufacturer exercises reasonable care to inform product users. *Id.*

20 353. At all times relevant, Manufacturer Defendants were in the business of, among
21 other things, manufacturing and/or selling and distributing AFFF.

22 354. As manufacturers and/or sellers and distributors of a commercial product, the
23 Manufacturer Defendants had a duty to provide adequate, full instructions, and warnings about the
24

1 risks of injury posed by their products.

2 355. Considering the factors related to risk, foreseeability, social utility, the burden of
3 guarding against the harm, and the practical consequences of placing that burden on the
4 Manufacturer Defendants, the Manufacturer Defendants owed a cognizable duty to the City not to
5 contaminate the City's well supply, as well as the environment and groundwater in and around
6 JBLM, with AFFF containing dangerous levels of PFAS. They also owed the same duty to the
7 purchasers and users of the City's water supply.

8 356. The storage, use, release, and disposal of Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF at
9 military installations, including JBLM, were foreseeable. Manufacturer Defendants knew or
10 should have known the likelihood that PFAS from AFFF would enter the groundwater and
11 household water supplies, persist there for decades, cause risks to human health and the
12 environment, and harm property.

13 357. At the time of the design, manufacture and/or distribution and sale of the AFFF,
14 Manufacturer Defendants knew or should have known of the dangerous properties of their AFFF.

15 358. On information and belief, the Manufacturer Defendants at significant times failed
16 to provide sufficient instructions and warnings to the users of AFFF, including the United States.
17 As a result, users were unaware that use and release of Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF to the
18 environment would contaminate groundwater, including drinking water and agricultural water
19 supplies, and cause risks to those exposed to the water supplies.

20 359. On information and belief, the Manufacturer Defendants failed to provide adequate
21 instructions and warnings to users that AFFF contamination of the groundwater and soil would
22 pose dangers to human health and the environment at significant times.

23 360. Manufacturer Defendants' failure to provide adequate instructions and warnings
24

1 constitute a pattern of continuous and ongoing tortious conduct.

2 361. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants failed and continue to fail to
3 provide adequate instructions and warnings, and have not recalled their AFFF products.

4 362. Adequate instructions and warnings would have reduced or avoided the foreseeable
5 risks of harm posed by the use and release AFFF.

6 363. Had Manufacturer Defendants provided adequate warnings, the Air Force and the
7 Army would not have used AFFF or would have taken measures to store, use, discharge, and
8 dispose of AFFF to reduce or eliminate groundwater and soil contamination.

9 364. Manufacturer Defendants' failure to warn against the likelihood of contamination
10 from their AFFF caused its chemical components, including PFAS, to contaminate the
11 groundwater in the Aquifers.

12 365. Manufacturer Defendants' failure to warn of the environmental and health impacts
13 caused by releasing their AFFF and its chemical components of their AFFF directly and
14 proximately caused PFAS to contaminate the groundwater in the Aquifers, causing the City to
15 lose the use and benefit of its property and to incur costs to treat the groundwater and soil on its
16 lands.

17 366. Manufacturer Defendants' failure to provide adequate warnings or instructions
18 renders Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF a defective product.

19 367. Manufacturer Defendants' conduct, and the resulting contamination of the Aquifers
20 by the Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF, caused the City to incur significant costs.

21 368. The City's costs include: assuring water quality through the delivery system by
22 sampling and analyzing groundwater and other media; responding to public inquiries and
23 managing public relations regarding the contamination; developing long-term treatment plans for
24

1 groundwater, including filtration systems, operations and maintenance, and filtration media
2 management and disposal; increasing the frequency of water quality testing and monitoring; and
3 other response costs.

4 369. In addition, the City has lost the value and marketability of its property and
5 property rights.

6
7 **SIXTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – DEFECTIVE PRODUCT – DESIGN DEFECT**
8 **(MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS)**

9 370. The City hereby incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the
10 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

11 371. This cause of action is brought pursuant to Washington State statutory law,
12 including but not limited to Chapter 7.72 RCW.

13 372. Under Washington law, “a product manufacturer is subject to liability...if the
14 claimant’s harm was proximately caused by the negligence of the manufacturer in that the product
15 was not reasonably safe as designed or not reasonably safe because adequate warnings or
16 instructions were not provided.” RCW 7.72.030(1).

17 373. “A product is not reasonably safe as designed, if, at the time of manufacture, the
18 likelihood that the product would cause the claimant’s harm or similar harms, and the seriousness
19 of those harms, outweighed the burden on the manufacturer to design a product that would have
20 prevented those harms, and the adverse effect that an alternative design that was practical and
21 feasible would have on the usefulness of the product.” RCW 7.72.030(1)(a).

22 374. At all times relevant, Manufacturer Defendants were in the business of, among
23 other things, manufacturing, selling, and/or distributing AFFF.

24 375. It was foreseeable that toxic chemicals from the AFFF that Manufacturer

1 Defendants manufactured and/or sold and distributed would enter the water supplies of the City and
2 cause damage to its property interests.

3 376. Alternative designs and formulations of AFFF were available, technologically
4 feasible and practical, and would have reduced or prevented the reasonably foreseeable risks of
5 harm to the City.

6 377. Further, design, formulation, manufacture, and/or distribution and sale of a product
7 containing chemicals that were so toxic, mobile, and persistent in the environment was
8 unreasonably dangerous.

9 378. The AFFF manufactured and/or distributed and sold by Manufacturer Defendants
10 was defective in design because the foreseeable risk of harm posed by the AFFF could have been
11 reduced or eliminated by the adoption of a reasonable alternative design, and because it was
12 unreasonably dangerous.

13 379. Manufacturer Defendants' products were defective at the time of manufacture
14 and/or distribution and sale, and thus at the time they left Manufacturer Defendants' control.

15 380. Manufacturer Defendants' sale and distribution of AFFF constitutes a pattern of
16 continuous and ongoing tortious conduct.

17 381. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants have sold and distributed, and
18 continue to sell and distribute, AFFF in a tortious manner.

19 382. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants have not recalled their AFFF
20 product.

21 383. Manufacturer Defendants' manufacture and/or distribution and sale of a
22 defectively-designed product caused PFAS to contaminate the Aquifers and to damage the City.

23 384. Manufacturer Defendants' design, formulation, manufacture and/or distribution and
24

1 sale of a defective product renders Manufacturer Defendants strictly liable in damages to the City.

2 385. Manufacturer Defendants' acts were willful, wanton, or reckless and conducted
3 with a reckless indifference to the rights of the City.

4 386. Manufacturer Defendants' conduct, and the resulting contamination of the Aquifers
5 by the chemical components of the Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF, caused the City to incur
6 significant costs.

7 387. The City's costs include: assuring water quality through the delivery system by
8 sampling and analyzing groundwater and other media; responding to public inquiries and
9 managing public relations regarding the contamination; developing, permitting and constructing long-
10 term treatment plans and facilities for groundwater, including filtration systems, operations and
11 maintenance, and filtration media management and disposal; increased labor costs to engage
12 professional services and additional employees to monitor and implement required filtration
13 systems and testing; increasing the frequency of water quality testing and monitoring; and other
14 response costs.

15 388. In addition, the City lost the value and marketability of its property and property
16 rights.

17 **SEVENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – NUISANCE (MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS)**

18 389. The City hereby incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the
19 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

20 390. Manufacturer Defendants' manufacture and/or sale and distribution of AFFF
21 constituted intentional, negligent, and/or unreasonably dangerous activity causing the unreasonable
22 and substantial interference with the use and enjoyment of the property interests of the City.

23 391. Given the chemical properties of PFAS in AFFF, Manufacturer Defendants knew
24

1 and/or should have reasonably foreseen that using AFFF at JBLM as they intended would result
2 in an invasion of the City's property interests, including obstruction of its use of its water supplies.
3 Through their actions described above, Manufacturer Defendants participated in carrying out the
4 nuisance described above within the meaning of, *inter alia*, Chapter 7.48 RCW.

5 392. The unreasonable and substantial interference with the use and enjoyment of the
6 City's property interests includes, but is not limited to: the contamination of groundwater and soil
7 on the City's property, including the source of the City's appropriated water rights; the need to
8 shutdown contaminated wells and rely on remaining wells for the City's water; and the exposure to known
9 toxic chemicals manufactured and/or sold and distributed by Manufacturer Defendants.

10 393. Manufacturer Defendants' sale and distribution of AFFF constitutes a pattern of
11 continuous and ongoing tortious conduct.

12 394. On information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants have and continue to sell and
13 distribute AFFF in a tortious manner to the date of this Complaint.

14 395. PFAS continue to contaminate the City's properties and continue to migrate to the
15 City's properties.

16 396. The nuisance caused by Manufacturer Defendants resulted in, and continues to
17 result in, contamination of the City's groundwater supplies.

18 397. Manufacturer Defendants' creation of a nuisance caused and is causing substantial
19 and unreasonable interference with the City's property rights.

20 398. Manufacturer Defendants' acts were willful, wanton, or reckless and conducted
21 with a reckless indifference to the rights and property of the City.

22 399. Manufacturer Defendants' conduct, and the resulting contamination of the Aquifers
23 by the chemical components of the Manufacturer Defendants' AFFF, caused the City to incur
24

1 significant costs.

2 400. The City's costs include: assuring water quality through the delivery system by
3 sampling and analyzing groundwater and other media; responding to public inquiries and
4 managing public relations regarding the contamination; developing long-term treatment plans for
5 groundwater, including filtration systems, operations and maintenance, and filtration media
6 management and disposal; increasing the frequency of water quality testing and monitoring; and
7 other response costs.

8 401. In addition, the City lost value and marketability of its property rights.

9 **EIGHTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – UNJUST ENRICHMENT**
10 **(MANUFACTURER DEFENDANTS)**

11 402. The City hereby incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the
12 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

13 403. Manufacturer Defendants profited from the manufacture and/or distribution and
14 sale of AFFF, and continued to do so long after they were aware of the health and environmental
15 risks of their products. Further, on information and belief, Manufacturer Defendants have failed to
16 recall their products to prevent the further release of their AFFF into groundwater and onto the
17 City's properties. Through Manufacturer Defendants' actions and inaction, the Manufacturer
18 Defendants have been unjustly enriched at the expense of the City.

19 404. Manufacturer Defendants' enrichment is both unjust under the circumstances and
20 as between these parties. *Puget Sound Security Patrol, Inc. v. Bates*, 396 P.3d 709, 717 (Wash.
21 App. 2017). The City has sustained millions of dollars in damages as a direct result of
22 Manufacturer Defendants' failure to recall their products. Manufacturer Defendants profited from
23 those sales. The City's resulting damages include, but are not limited to: loss of use and enjoyment
24 of its property rights, loss of value of its property and rights, the cost of shutting down

1 contaminated wells, and the cost of monitoring and treating groundwater contaminated with PFAS,
2 including increased water quality testing and monitoring. These damages necessitate an equitable
3 remedy.

4 405. The City asks the Court to award the expenditures saved and the profits obtained by
5 Manufacturer Defendants at the expense of the City as a remedy.

6
7 **NINTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – DECLARATORY JUDGMENT**
8 **(ALL DEFENDANTS)**

9 406. The City hereby incorporates by reference the allegations contained in the
10 preceding paragraphs of this Complaint as if fully set forth herein.

11 407. The Court has jurisdiction to award declaratory relief pursuant to the Declaratory
12 Judgment Act, 28 U.S.C. §§ 2201, *et seq.*

13 408. An actual, present, and existing dispute exists between the City and Defendants. The
14 parties have genuine and opposing interests, which are direct and substantial, relating to
15 Defendants' liability and responsibility for the City's damages incurred, and the future costs that
16 the City will incur to abate the continuing PFAS migration and contamination from JBLM.

17 409. The possibility of the City incurring future costs necessary to abate the continuing
18 PFAS migration and contamination from JBLM is not unlikely, remote, or speculative.

19 410. The City is entitled to entry of a judgment declaring that Defendants are liable for
20 damages and future costs necessary to abate the continuing PFAS migration and contamination
21 from JBLM, under Washington common law and federal statutory law. Such judgment shall be
22 final, conclusive, and binding on any subsequent action or actions to recover further response costs
23 or damages.

24 411. The City further requests that this Court, after entering the declaratory judgment

1 prayed for herein, retain jurisdiction over this action to grant the City such further relief against
 2 Defendants as is necessary and proper to effectuate the Court’s declaration, including an award of
 3 costs and entry of an injunction to implement a judgment entered on the City’s claims under 28
 4 U.S.C. § 2202.

5 **TENTH CLAIM FOR RELIEF – COMPREHENSIVE ENVIRONMENTAL RESPONSE,**
 6 **COMPENSATION, AND LIABILITY ACT (ALL DEFENDANTS)**

7 412. The City incorporates all averments in this Complaint as if restated fully herein.

8 413. Defendants are “persons,” as defined by CERCLA § 101(21), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(21).

9 414. JBLM—including but not limited to fire training areas, hangars, fire stations,
 10 landfills, aircraft crash sites, and machine calibration areas—and the City’s wells (collectively,
 11 “Facilities”) are “facilities,” as defined by CERCLA § 101(9), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(9).

12 415. Under CERCLA, “hazardous substances” are defined in part as “any hazardous
 13 waste having the characteristics identified under section 3001 of the Solid Waste Disposal Act [42
 14 U.S.C. 6921].” 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14); *see* 42 U.S.C. § 6921 (defining “hazardous substances” as
 15 those that “cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious
 16 irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness” and “pose a substantial present or potential
 17 hazard to human health or the environment” because they have been “improperly treated, stored,
 18 transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed.”).

19 416. The PFAS contaminating the City’s property and groundwater are “hazardous
 20 substances” under CERCLA, 42 U.S.C. § 6903(5) and 42 U.S.C. § 9601(14). As described above,
 21 they “cause, or significantly contribute to an increase in mortality or an increase in serious
 22 irreversible, or incapacitating reversible, illness” and “pose a substantial present or potential
 23 hazard to human health or the environment” because they have been “improperly treated, stored,
 24 transported, or disposed of, or otherwise managed.” 42 U.S.C. § 6921; *see also* Factual

1 Allegations, *supra*.

2 Federal Defendants currently own and operate, and owned and operated the Facilities when
3 PFAS were released into the environment at the Facilities; they also arranged for disposal of
those hazardous substances.

4 417. Federal Defendants are therefore “covered persons” liable under CERCLA §
5 107(a)(1)-(3), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a)(1)-(3).

6 418. Manufacturer Defendants generated the PFAS and AFFF containing it and arranged
7 for disposal or treatment of those hazardous substances.

8 419. Manufacturer Defendants are therefore “covered persons” liable under CERCLA §
9 107(a)(3), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a)(3). Defendants’ disposal of PFAS are “releases” within the
10 meaning of CERCLA §101(22), 42 U.S.C. § 9601(22), and have resulted in the contamination of
11 the City’s property and groundwater.

12 420. Federal Defendants are liable under CERCLA §107(a), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a),
13 because they generate and dispose of PFAS, and generated and disposed of PFAS; they arrange
14 and arranged for disposal or treatment of PFAS; and they own and operate, and owned and
15 operated the Facilities where PFAS were stored, used, disposed, or otherwise released on the
16 Facilities.

17 421. Manufacturer Defendants are liable under CERCLA § 107(a), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a),
18 because they generate and dispose of PFAS, generated and disposed of PFAS, and they arrange
19 for and arranged for disposal or treatment of PFAS.

20 422. Federal and Manufacturer Defendants’ PFAS releases have caused the City to
21 incur, and to continue to incur, “response” costs within the meaning of CERCLA §§ 101(23)-(25),
22 42 U.S.C. §§ 9601(23)-(25).

23 423. All such costs are necessary and consistent with the National Contingency Plan. 40
24 CFR Pt. 300.

1 424. The City is entitled to full reimbursement from Federal and Manufacturer
2 Defendants for all such response costs, pursuant to CERCLA § 107(a), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a).

3 425. Accordingly, Federal and Manufacturer Defendants are strictly, jointly and
4 severally liable under CERCLA § 107(a), 42 U.S.C. § 9607(a), for all response costs incurred by
5 the City.
6

7
PRAYER FOR RELIEF

8 WHEREFORE, Plaintiff respectfully requests that this Court enter judgment against
9 Defendants, and each of them, jointly and severally, and grant the City the following relief:

10 a) An award to the City of all damages suffered, or that will be suffered, as a result of
11 Defendants' actions, including, without limitation: costs to take PFAS-contaminated wells offline;
12 costs to design, permit, construct, operate, and maintain, long-term filtration and treatment
13 systems for the City's contaminated wells, including those to install pipelines and other
14 infrastructure; costs to manage water quality; costs to collect and analyze samples of groundwater
15 and other media; costs to hire professional services and additional employees necessary to develop
16 and implement required filtration systems and additional testing; costs to manage public relations
17 and public inquiries relating to PFAS contamination of the City's property; costs of lost profits
18 and lost customers; the decrease in the value and marketability of the City's property and property
19 rights; the loss of use and enjoyment of the property and property rights; and the annoyance,
20 discomfort, and inconvenience caused to the City by Defendants' PFAS releases to the
21 environment—in an amount of at least \$42,140,442;

22 b) An award to the City, in an amount to be determined at trial, commensurate to the
23 amount of an order for disgorgement of the profits and savings which were obtained by the unjust
24

1 enrichment of Manufacturer Defendants through their manufacture and/or distribution and sale of
2 AFFF;

3 c) A declaration that the Defendants are liable for damages suffered by the City to
4 date, and for costs to be incurred by the City in the future to abate the continuing PFAS migration
5 and contamination from JBLM;

6 d) An order awarding to the City its attorney fees and costs, as provided by law;

7 e) An award to the City of pre- and post-judgment interest, as provided by law; and

8 f) An order and award to the City for all such other and further relief, including
9 equitable and declaratory, as the Court deems just and proper.

10 **DEMAND FOR JURY TRIAL**

11 Pursuant to Federal Rule of Civil Procedure 38(b) the City demands a trial by jury on all
12 claims so triable.

13 Respectfully submitted September 22, 2021.

14 CITY OF DUPONT

15 s/ Gordon P. Karg
16 Gordon P. Karg
17 City Attorney
1700 Civic Drive
DuPont, WA 98327
18 Phone: (253) 912-5214
Email: gkarg@dupontwa.gov

19 Attorney for Plaintiff City of DuPont